

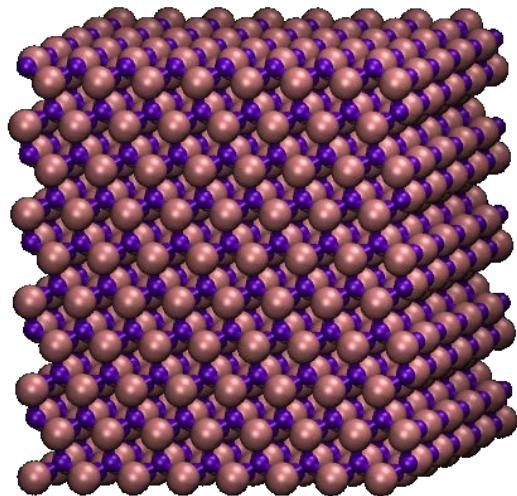
*Claudia Draxl*

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Organic molecular materials for  
light-emitting applications:  
a first-principles view

# Inorganic vs organic semiconductors

G. Grem, G. Leditzky, B. Ullrich, G. Leising,  
Realization of a blue-light-emitting device using  
poly(p-phenylene), Adv. Mat. 4, 36 (1992).



S. Nakamura, T. Mukai, and M. Senoh,  
Candela-Class High-Brightness InGaN/AlGaN  
Double-Heterostructure Blue-Light-Emitting-  
Diodes, Appl. Phys. Lett. 64, 1687 (1994).

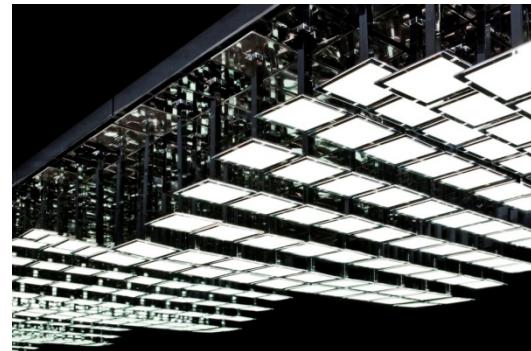
*Blue-light emitters*

# Applications

## OLED TV



## OLED lighting



Philips Lumiblade

## Flexible OLED displays

Samsung Galaxy Round



Sony's rollable OLED display

[http://www.techhive.com/article/197182/Sony\\_Rollable\\_Display.html](http://www.techhive.com/article/197182/Sony_Rollable_Display.html)

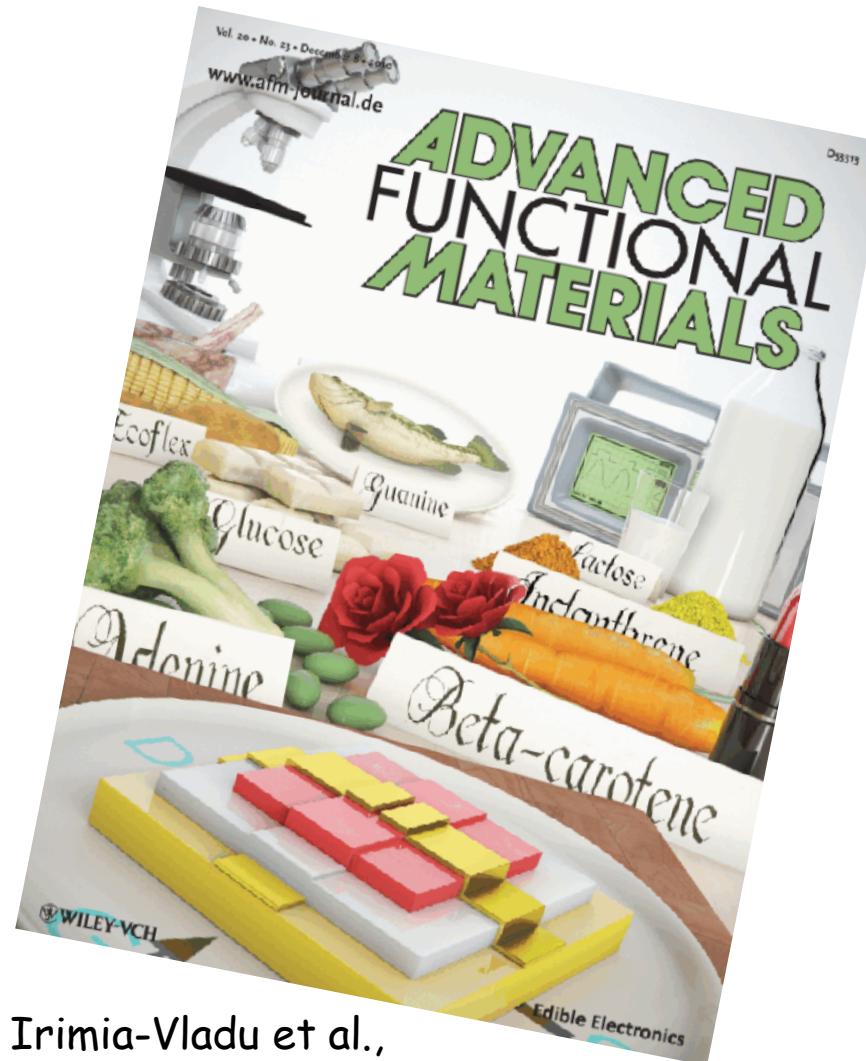
# Applications

Edible electronics

Biocompatible

Biodegradable

Sustainable



M. Irimia-Vladu et al.,  
Adv. Mat. 20, 4017 (2010).

*... and in the future*

# Good old friends ...

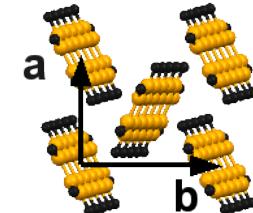
Organic  $\pi$ -conjugated molecules

anisotropic, functionalizeable, herringbone structure

Strong light-matter interaction

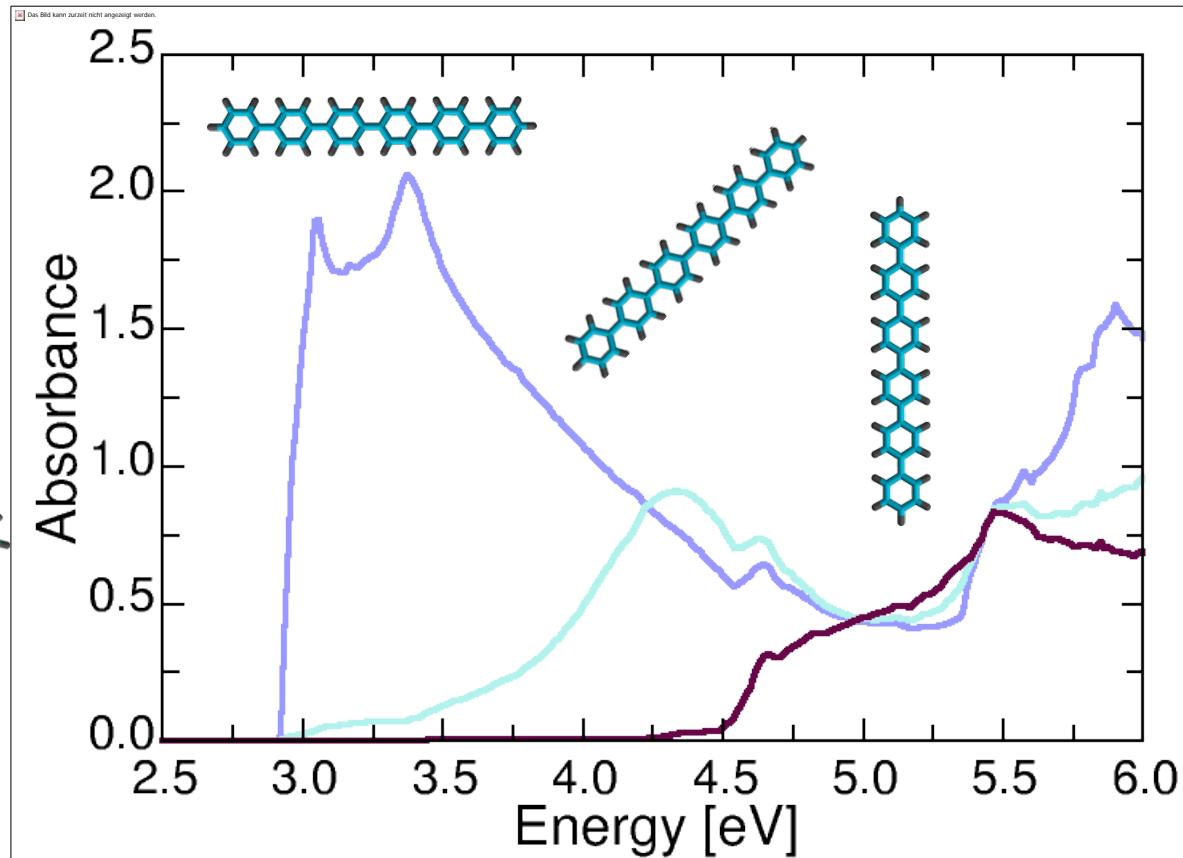
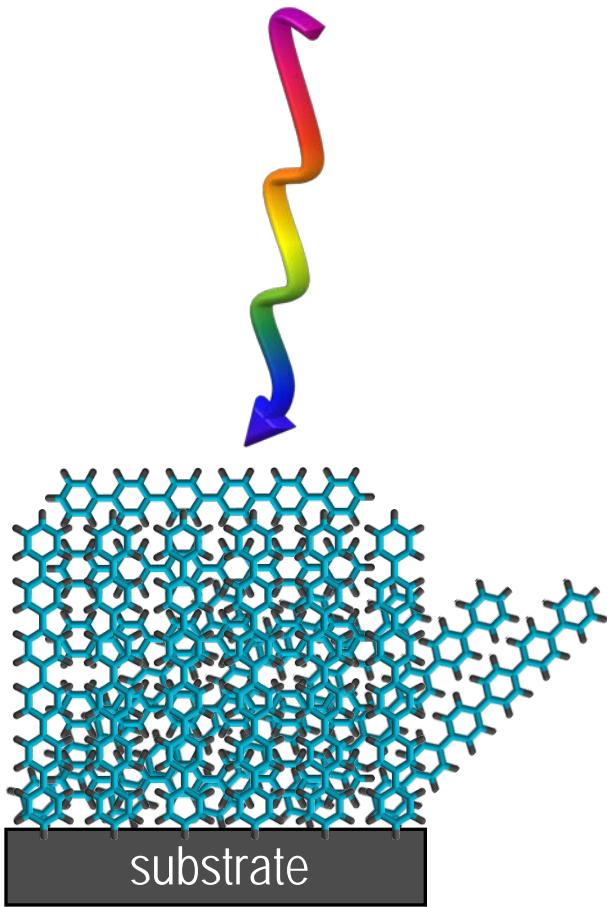
Band gaps in the visible range

scaling like  $1/n$



# rings, n	2	3	4	5	6
Oligophenyls					
Oligothiophenes					
Oligoacenes					

# Anisotropy



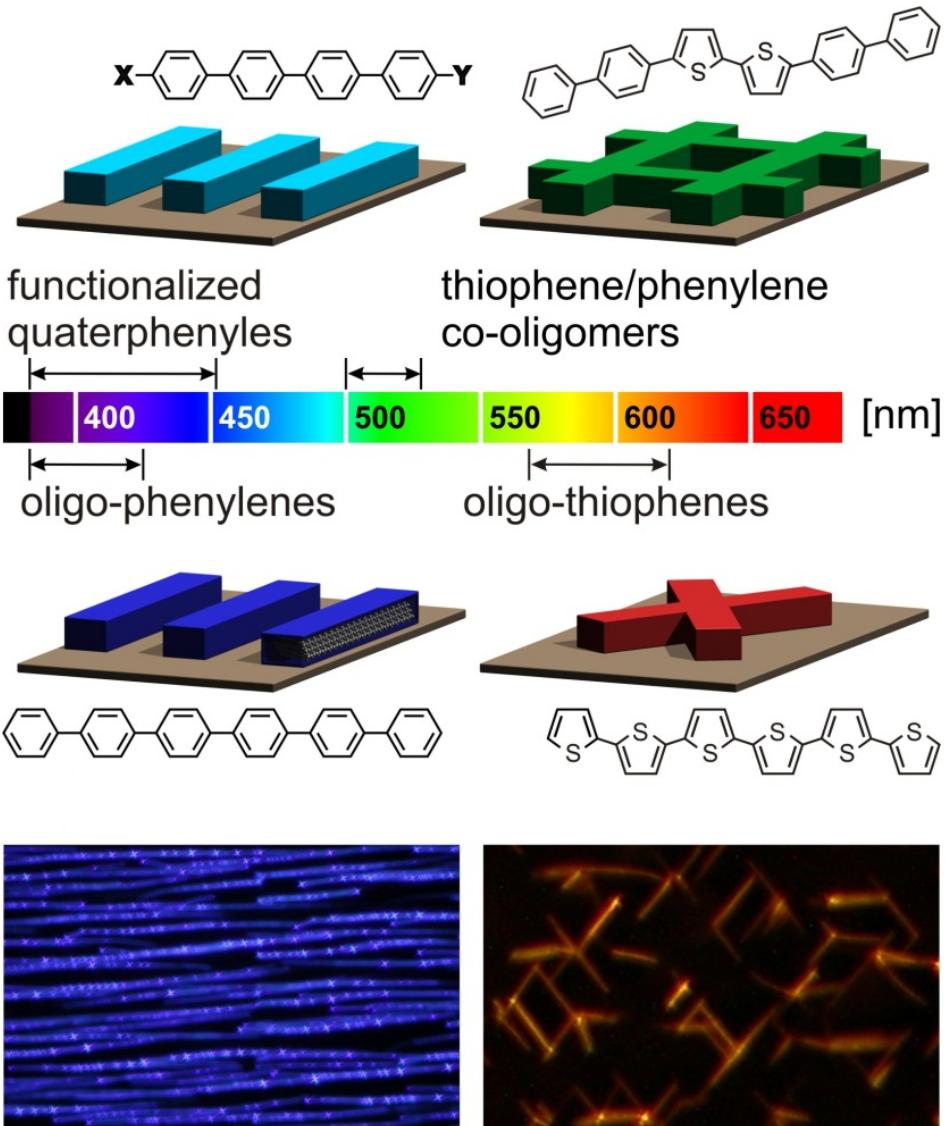
CAD, J. A. Majewski, P. Vogl, and G. Leising, PRB 51, 9668 (1995).  
P. Puschnig and CAD, Adv. Eng. Mat. 8, 1151 (2006).  
E. Zojer et al., PRB 61, 16538 (2000).

*Optical excitations*

# *Role of substrate ...*

*Structure*

# *Light emission*

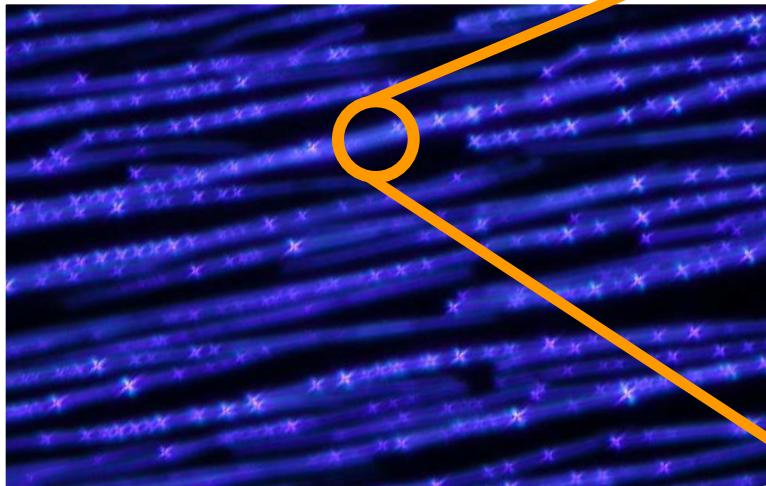
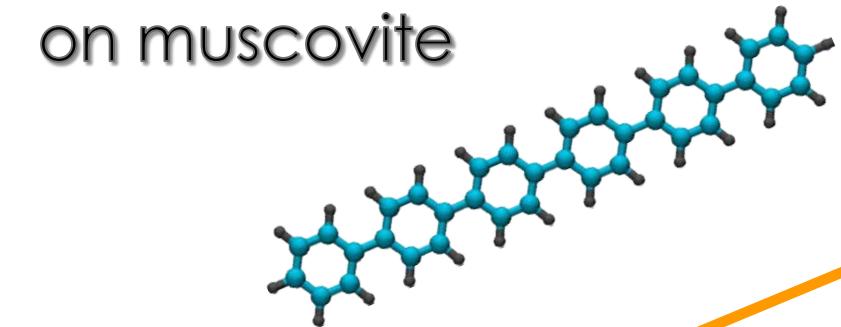


- Nano-needles on muscovite mica
  - Parallel alignment only for phenylenes
  - Anisotropy for thiophenes and co-oligomers
  - Macroscopic polarized light emission only for parallel alignment

# *Nano-needles*

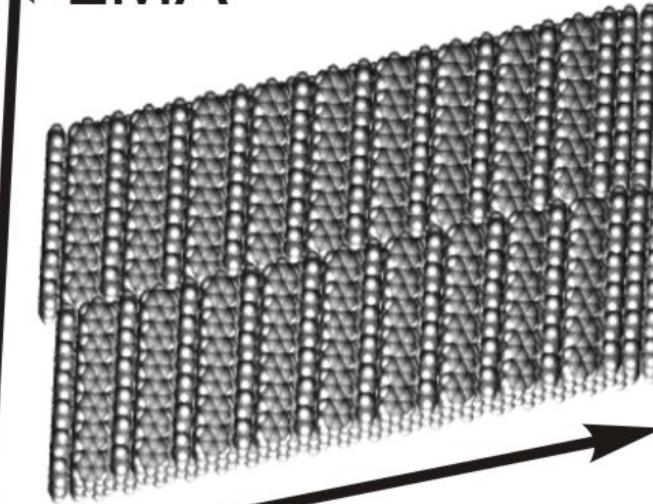
# Sexiphenyl

on muscovite



Long Molecular Axis

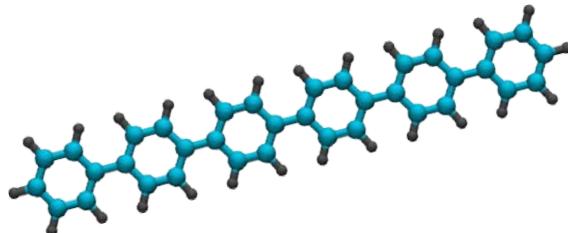
LMA



Long Needle Axis

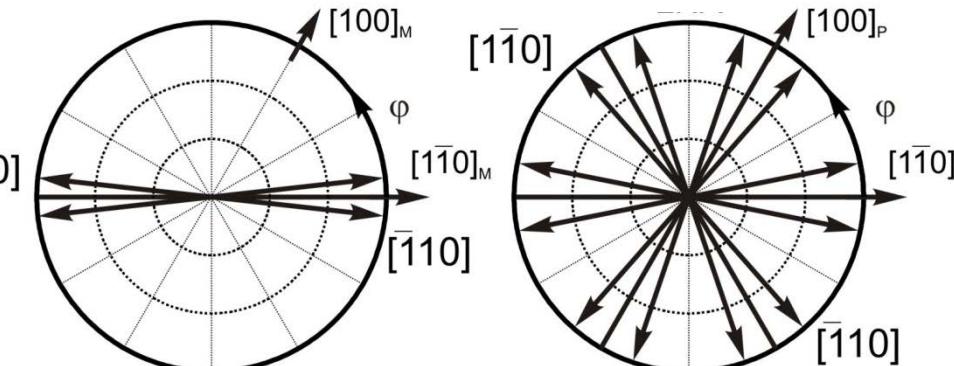
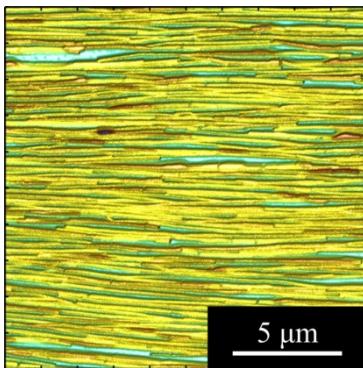
*Nano-needles*

# Sexiphenyl

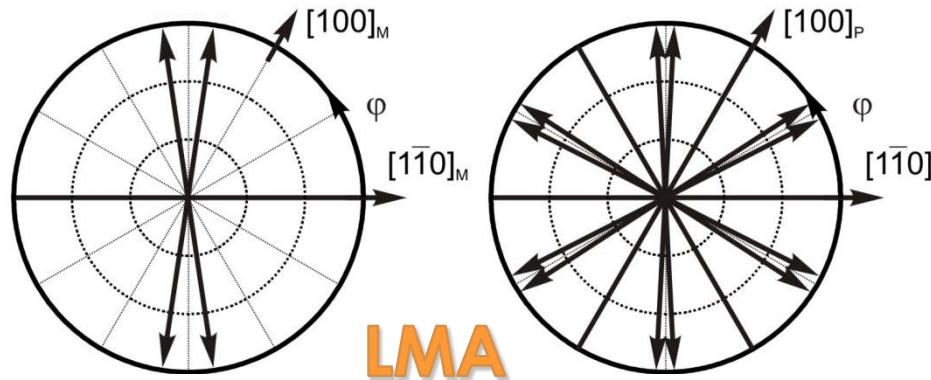
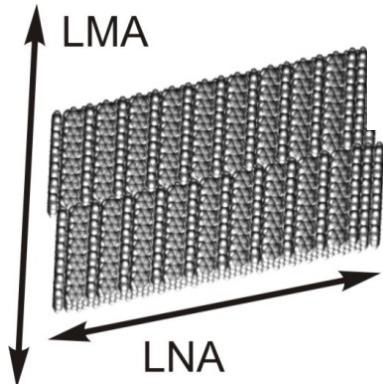
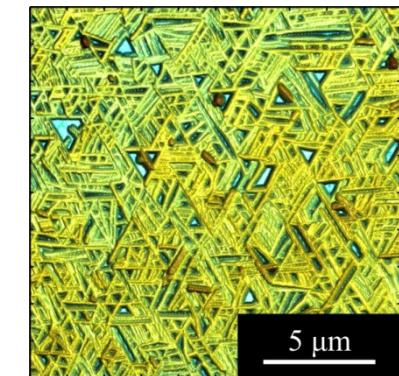


Muscovite

LNA

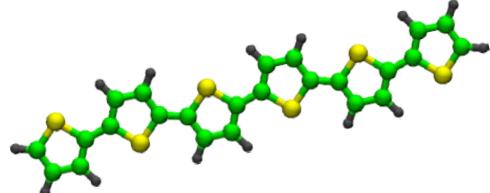


Phlogopite



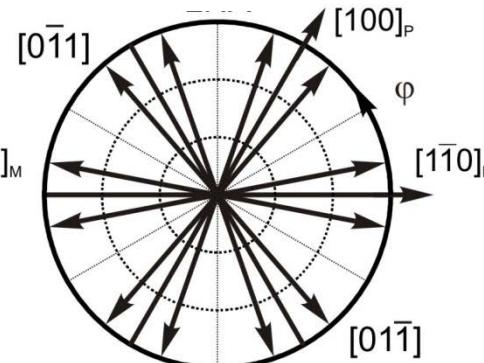
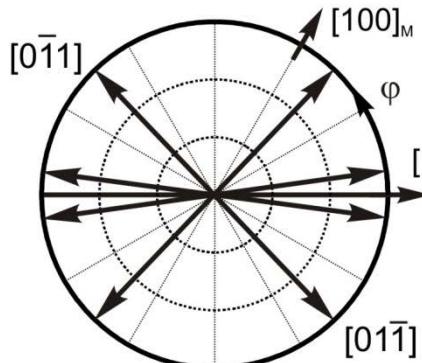
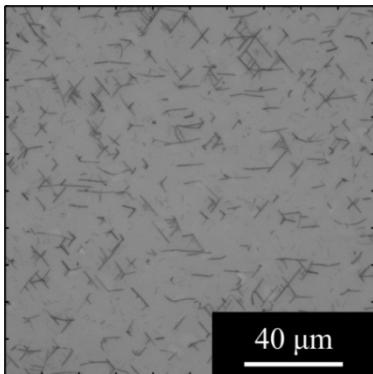
XRD & AFM

# Sexithiophene



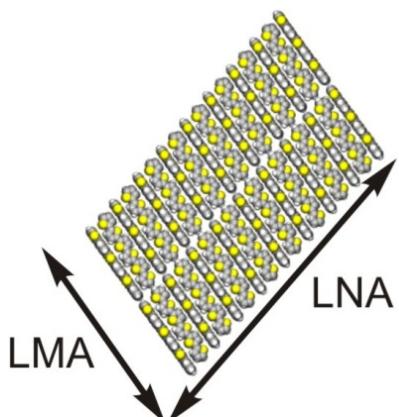
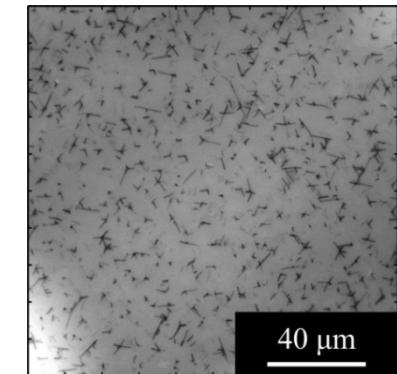
Muscovite

LNA



Phlogopite

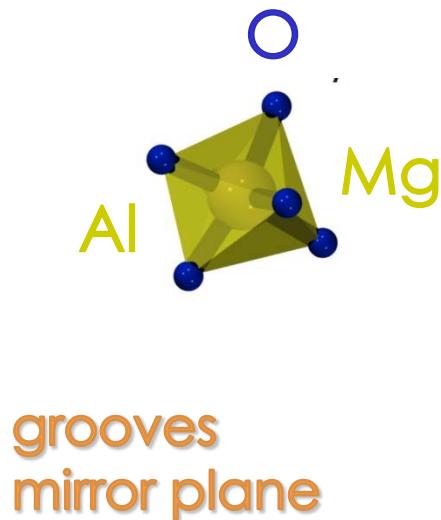
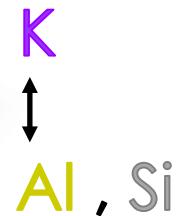
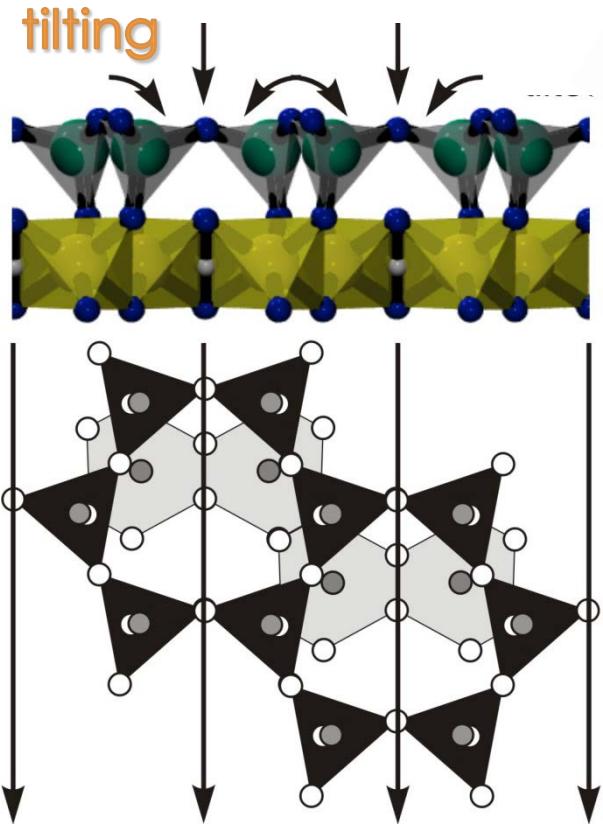
LMA



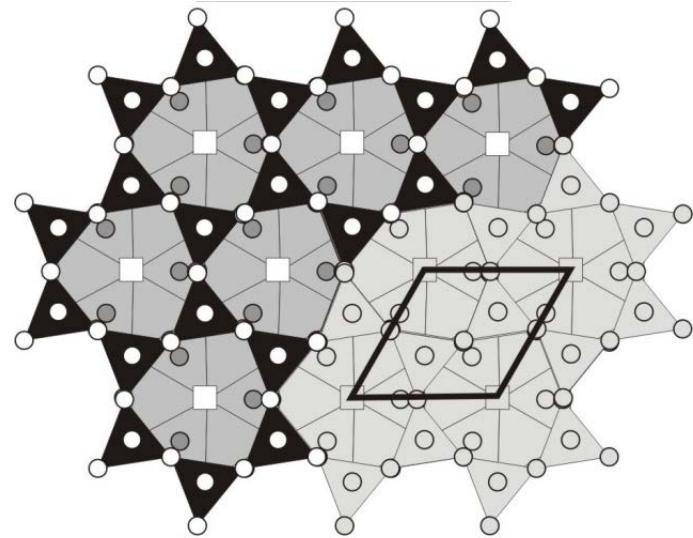
XRD & optical microscopy

# Substrates

Muscovite



Phlogopite

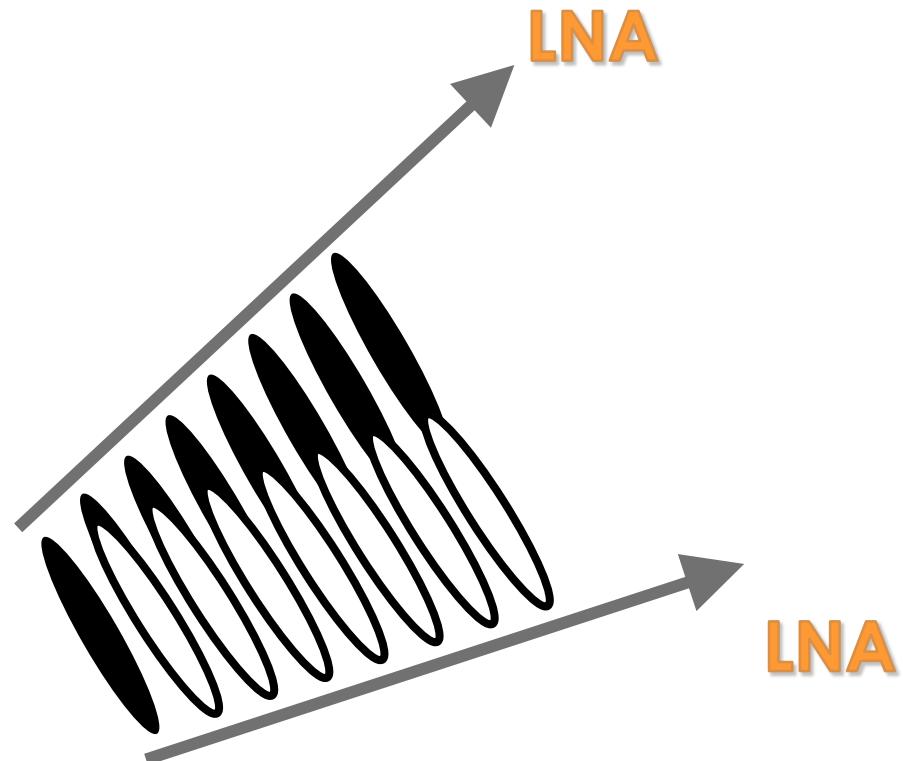
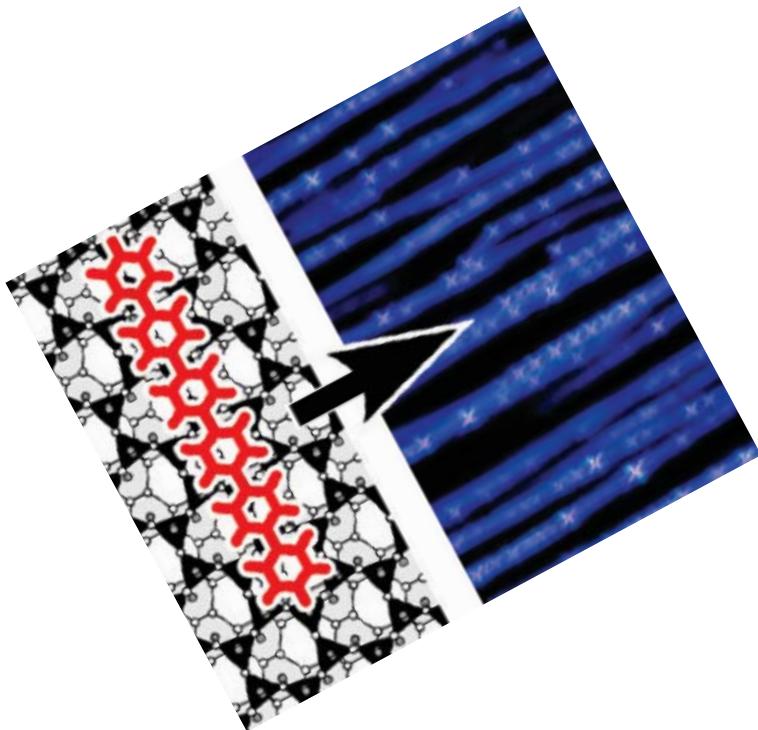


higher symmetry  
3-fold axis

*Micas*

# Orientation and symmetry

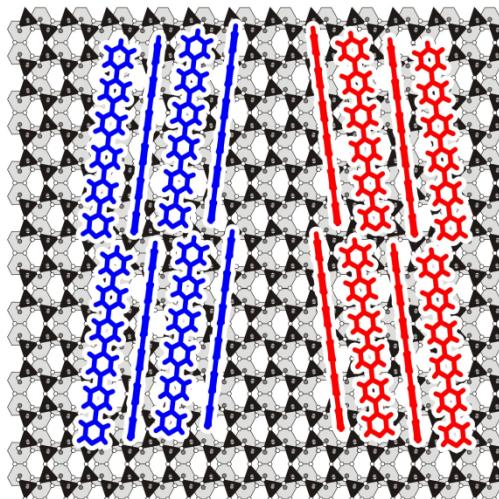
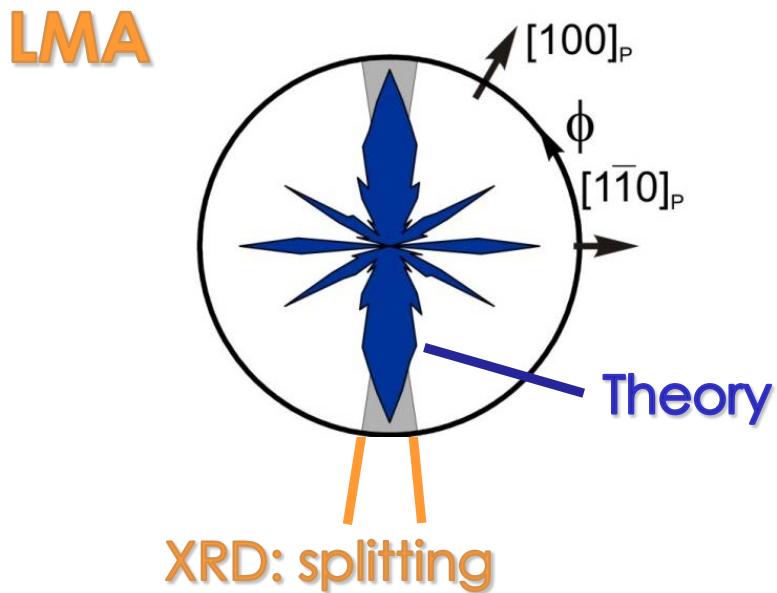
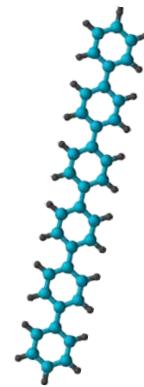
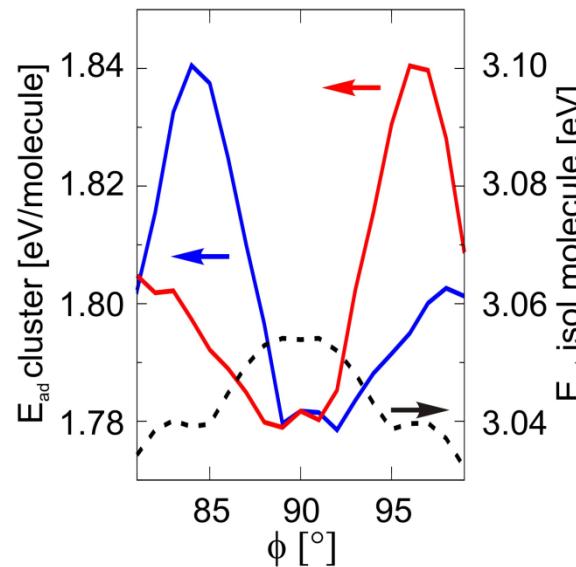
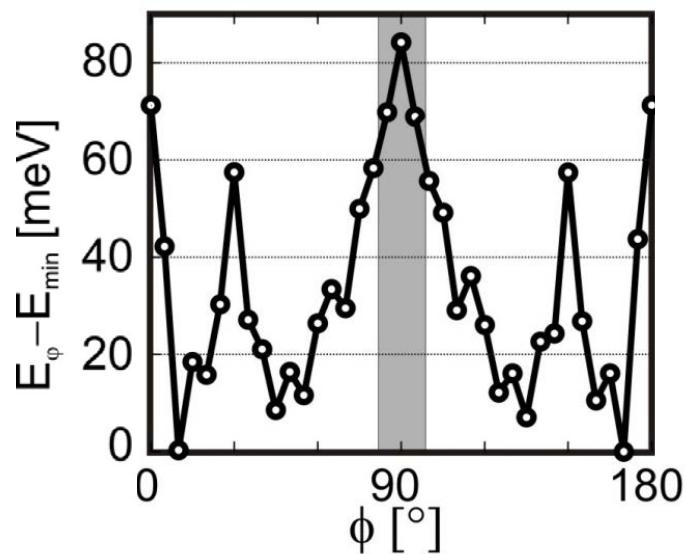
For each molecular orientation: 2 needle orientations  
due to non-orthogonal surface unit cell



C. Simbrunner, et al. JACS 133, 3056 (2011).

*Needle formation*

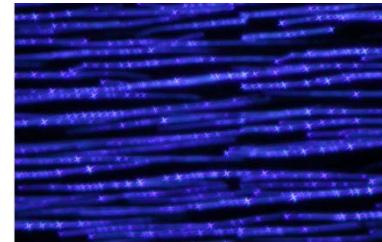
# Re-adjustment of molecular orientation



*Needle formation*

# Growth model

- Molecular orientation pre-determines needle growth
- Needle orientation depends on symmetry of surface as well as molecule
- Re-adjustment due to molecular packing
- 6P & 4P are *lucky* cases with  $\Phi = 0, 90^\circ$



Lorenz Romaner



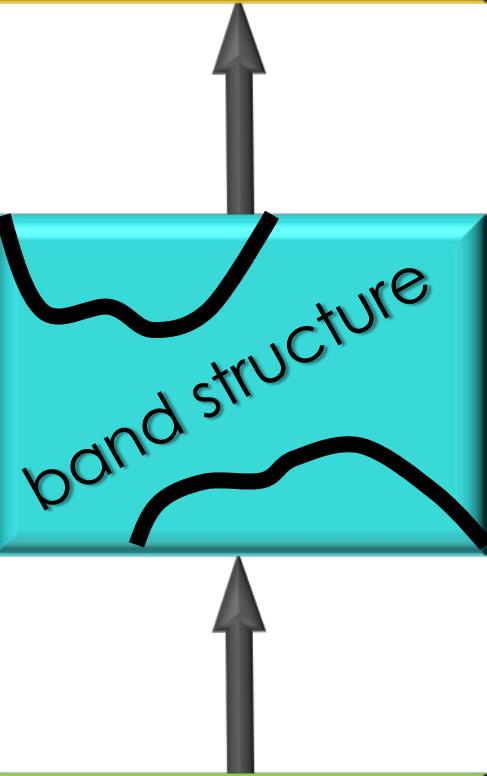
Dmitrii Nabok

C. Simbrunner, D. Nabok, G. Hernandez-Sosa, M. Oehzelt, T. Djuric, R. Resel, L. Romaner, P. Puschnig, CAD, I. Salzmann, G. Schwabegger, I. Watzinger, and H. Sitter, JACS 133, 3056 (2011).

*Needle formation*

*From ground state to light absorption ...*

*Methodology*



## Bethe-Salpeter equation

$$[H_e + H_h + H_{e-h}] \phi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_e, \mathbf{r}_h) = E_\lambda \phi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_e, \mathbf{r}_h)$$

Many-body perturbation theory

## $G_0W_0$ approximation

$$\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{QP} = \epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{KS} + \left\langle n\mathbf{k} \left| \Sigma - V_{xc}^{KS} \right| n\mathbf{k} \right\rangle$$

Density-functional theory

## Kohn-Sham equation

$$[T + V_{ext}(\mathbf{r}) + V_H(\mathbf{r}) + V_{xc}(\mathbf{r})] \psi_i^{KS}(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_i^{KS} \psi_i^{KS}(\mathbf{r})$$

# Electron-hole interaction

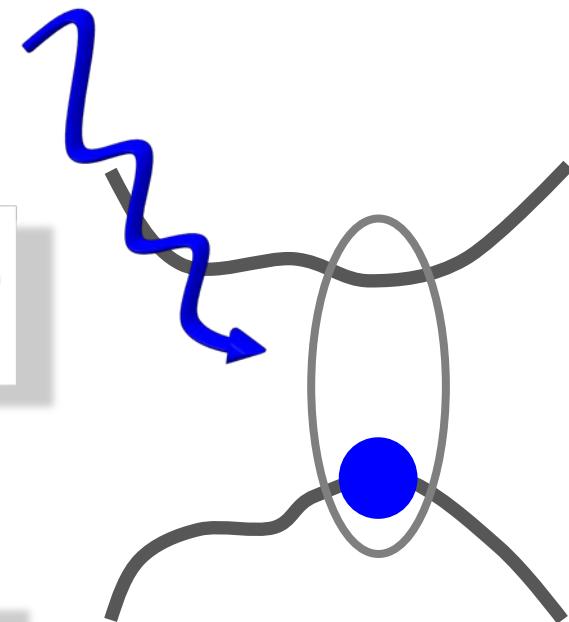
$$\left[ H_e + H_h + \boxed{H_{e-h}} \right] \phi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_e, \mathbf{r}_h) = E_\lambda \phi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_e, \mathbf{r}_h)$$

Two-body wavefunction

$$\phi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_e, \mathbf{r}_h) = \sum_{cv} A_\lambda^{cv} \psi_c(\mathbf{r}_e) \psi_v(\mathbf{r}_h)$$

Dielectric function

$$\text{Im}\epsilon \sim \sum_\lambda \sum_{cv} \left| \frac{\langle c | \nabla | v \rangle}{E_c - E_v} \boxed{A_\lambda^{cv}} \right|^2 \delta(\boxed{E_\lambda} - \omega)$$



Bethe-Salpeter equation

# Electron-hole interaction

$$[H_e + H_h + H_{e-h}] \phi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_e, \mathbf{r}_h) = E_\lambda \phi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_e, \mathbf{r}_h)$$

Diagonal term

$$H_{vck, v'c'k'}^{diag} = (E_{ck} - E_{vk}) \delta_{vv'} \delta_{cc'} \delta_{kk'}$$

Direct term - attractive

$$H_{vck, v'c'k'}^{dir} = - \int \frac{\psi_{vk}(\mathbf{r}) \psi_{ck}^*(\mathbf{r}') \epsilon^{-1}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \psi_{v'k'}^*(\mathbf{r}) \psi_{c'k'}(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}'$$

Exchange term - repulsive

$$H_{vck, v'c'k'}^x = \int \frac{\psi_{vk}(\mathbf{r}) \psi_{ck}^*(\mathbf{r}) \psi_{v'k'}^*(\mathbf{r}') \psi_{c'k'}(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}'$$

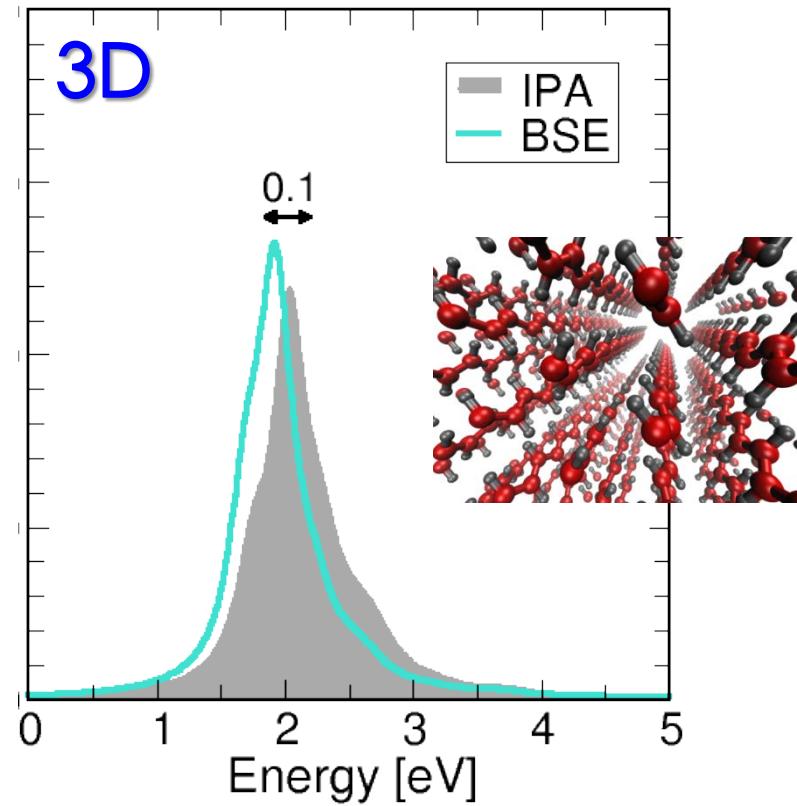
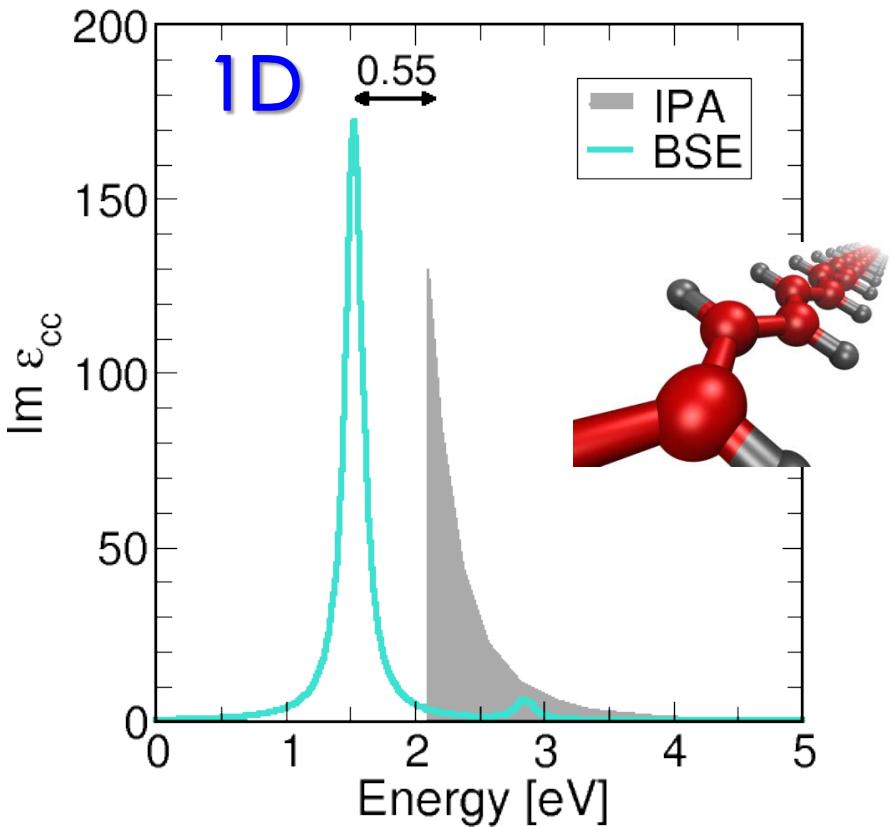
Bethe-Salpeter equation

# Singlet exciton spectra

Impact of screening & extension of WF



Peter Puschnig



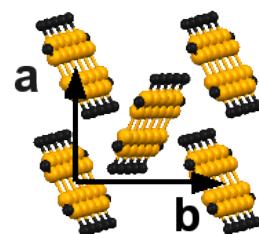
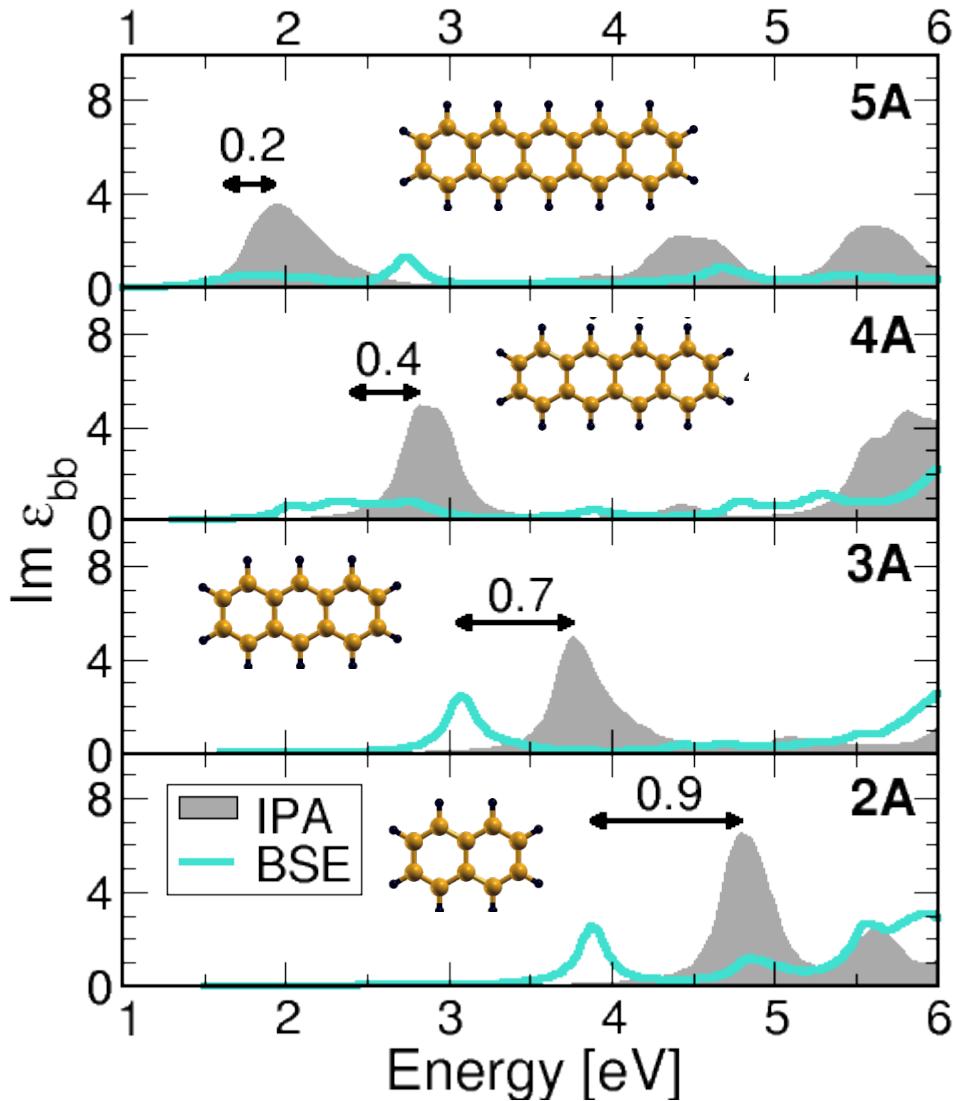
P. Puschnig and CAD, PRL 89, 056405 (2002).

*Poly-acetylene*

# Organic molecular crystals



Kerstin Hummer



Smaller band gap  
Enhanced screening  
Wider extension of  
e-h wavefunction  
Smaller exciton  
binding energy

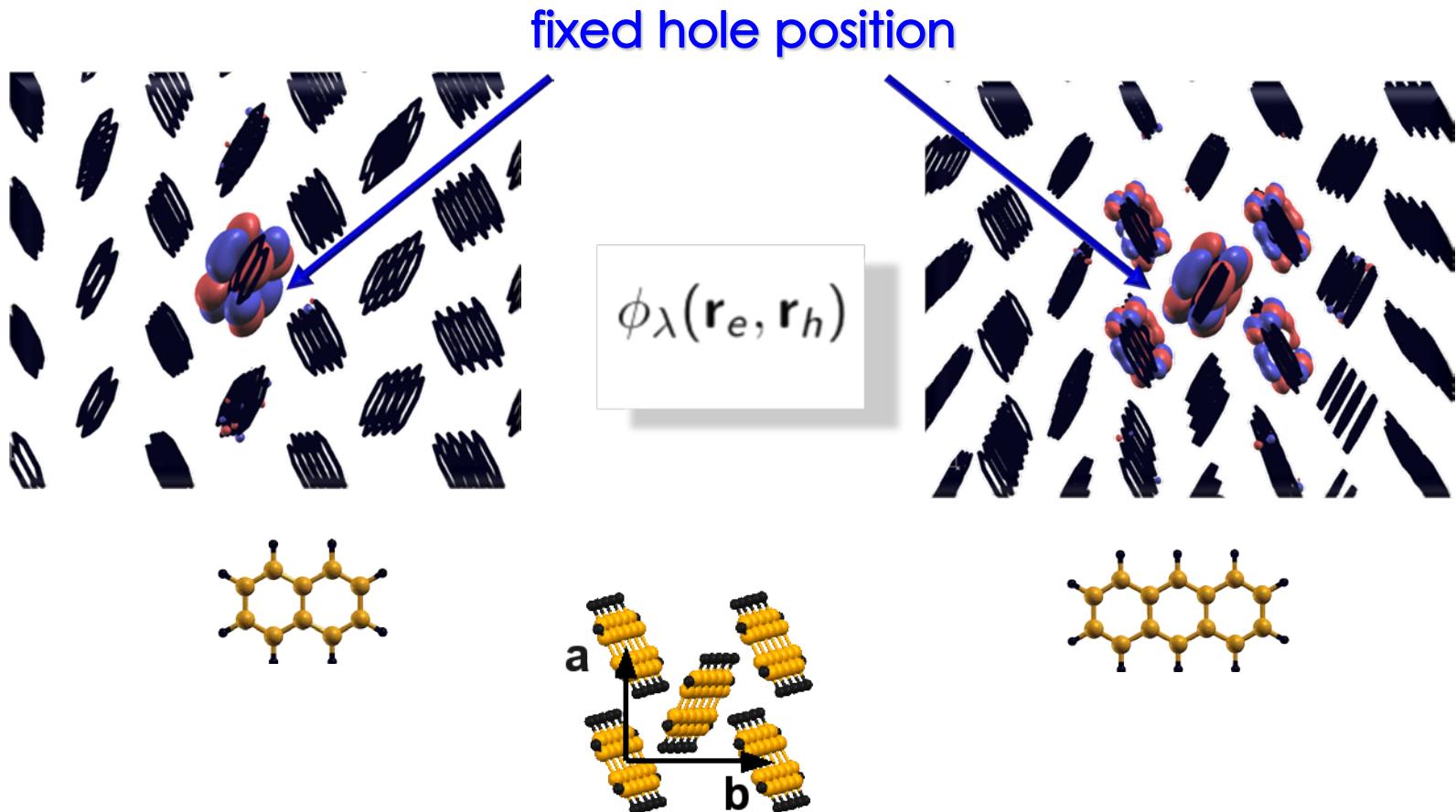
K. Hummer, P. Puschnig, and CAD,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 92, 147402 (2004).

K. Hummer and CAD,  
Phys. Rev. B 71, 081202(R) (2005).

Oligoacenes

# Example

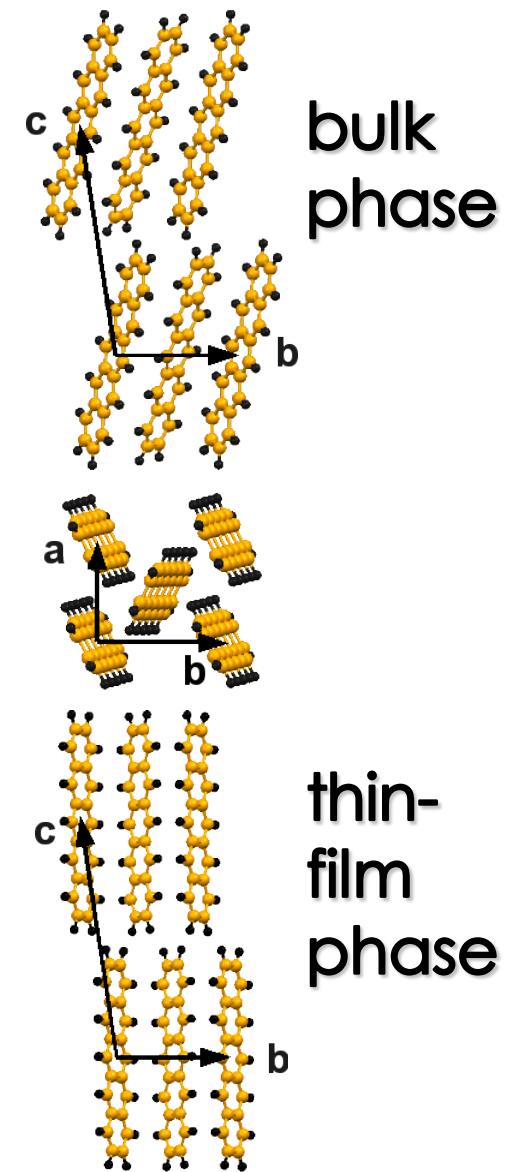
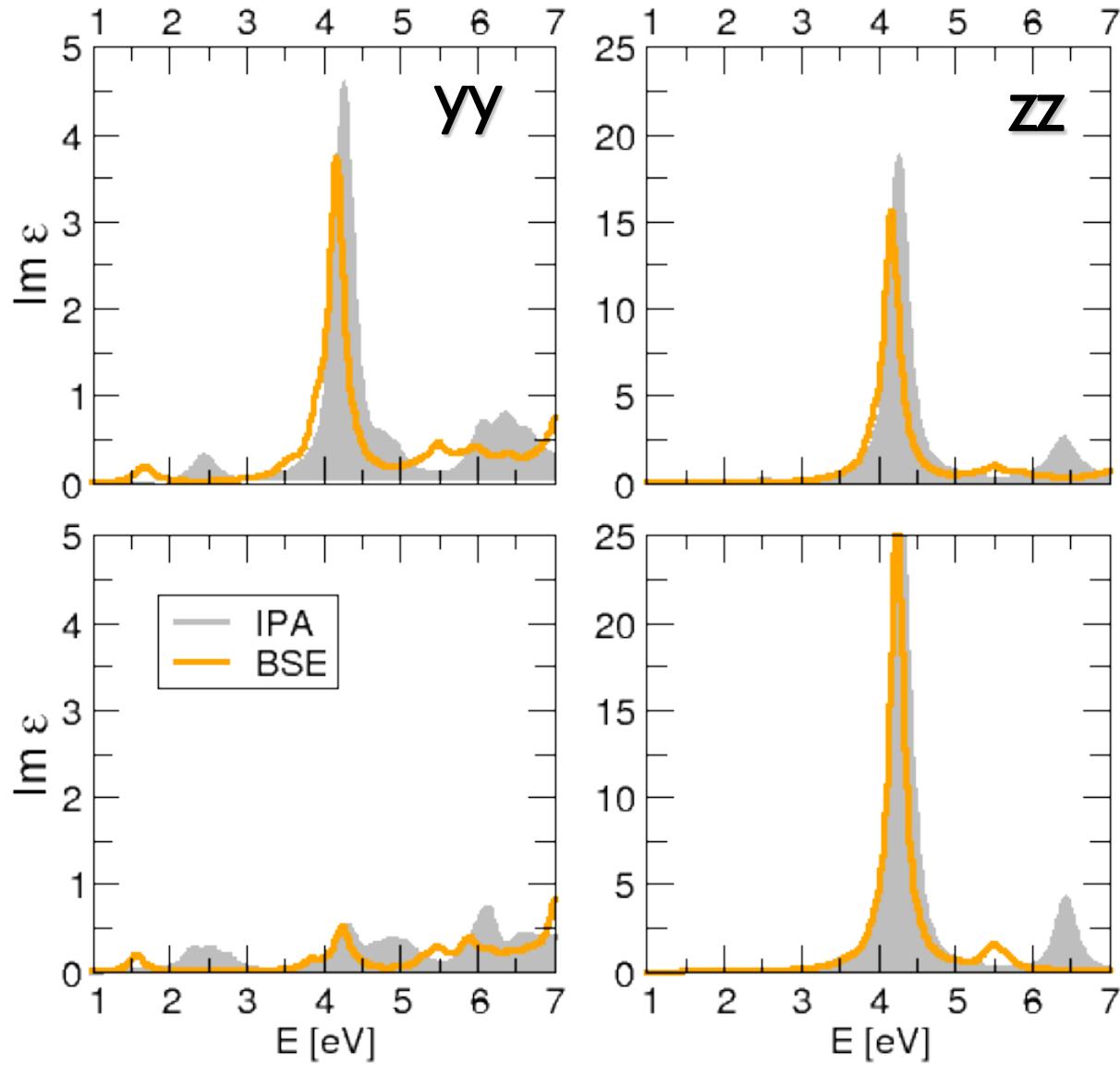
## Extension of exciton wavefunction



K. Hummer and C. Ambrosch-Draxl,  
Phys. Rev. B 71, 081202(R) (2005).

Oligoacenes

# Polymorphism in pentacene

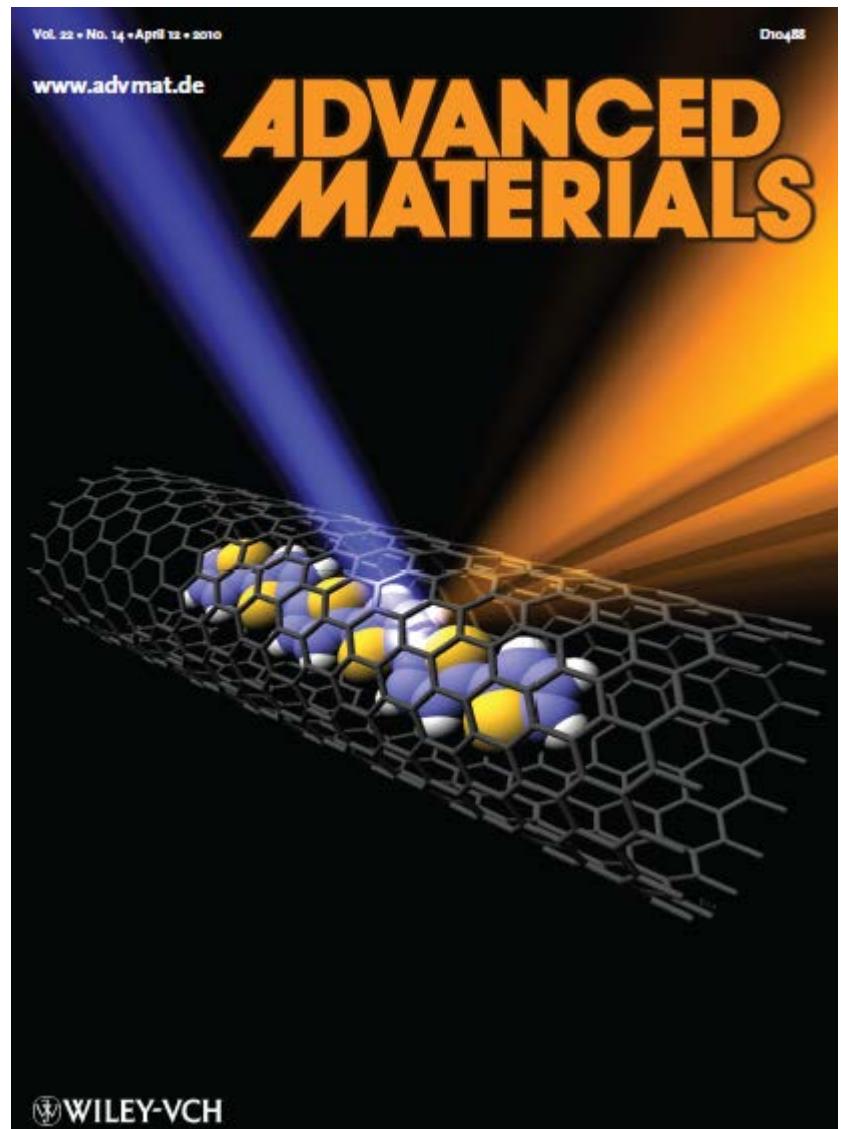


# Light-emitting nano-objects

M. A. Loi, et al.  
Adv. Mater. 22, 1635 (2010).

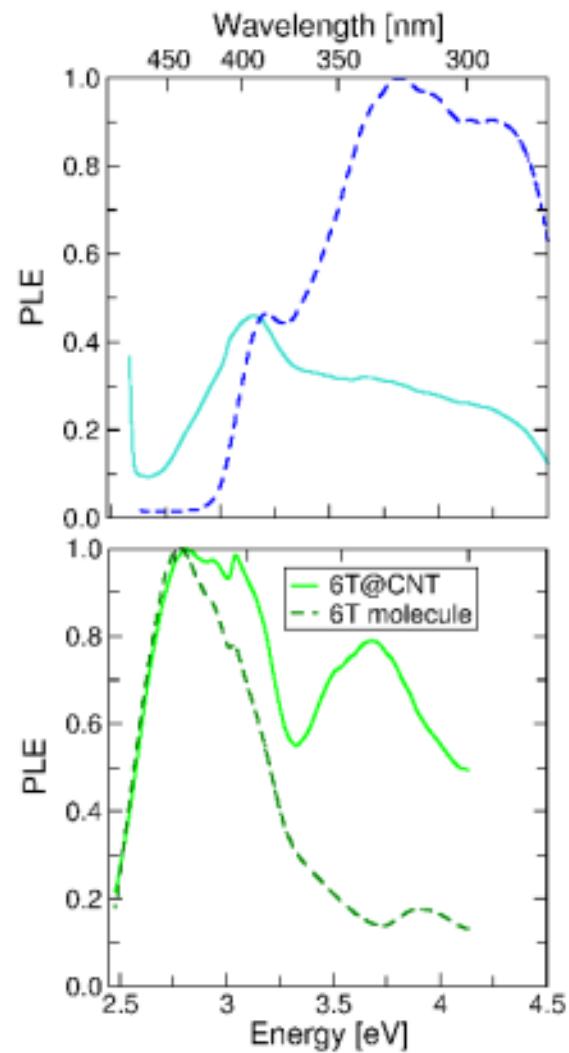
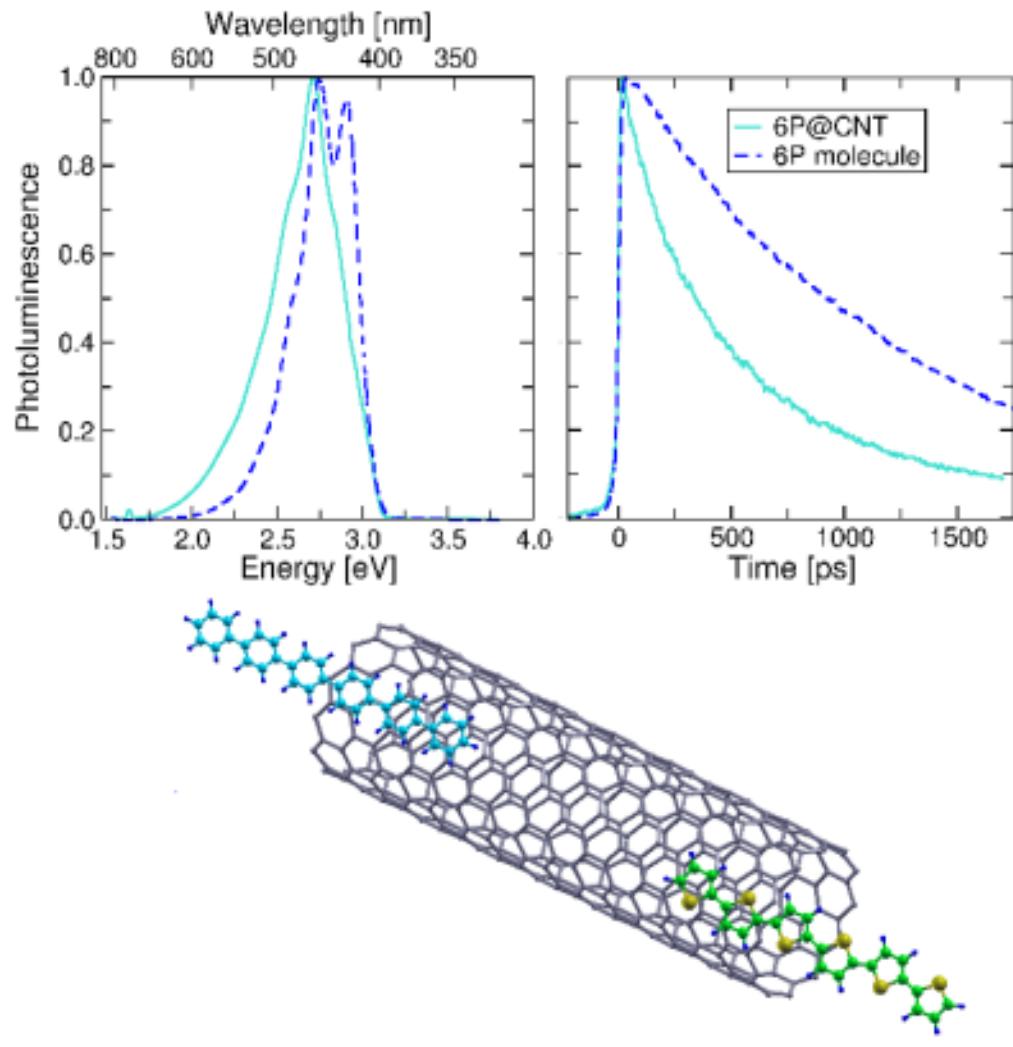


Matus Milko



Peapods

# Experimental evidence

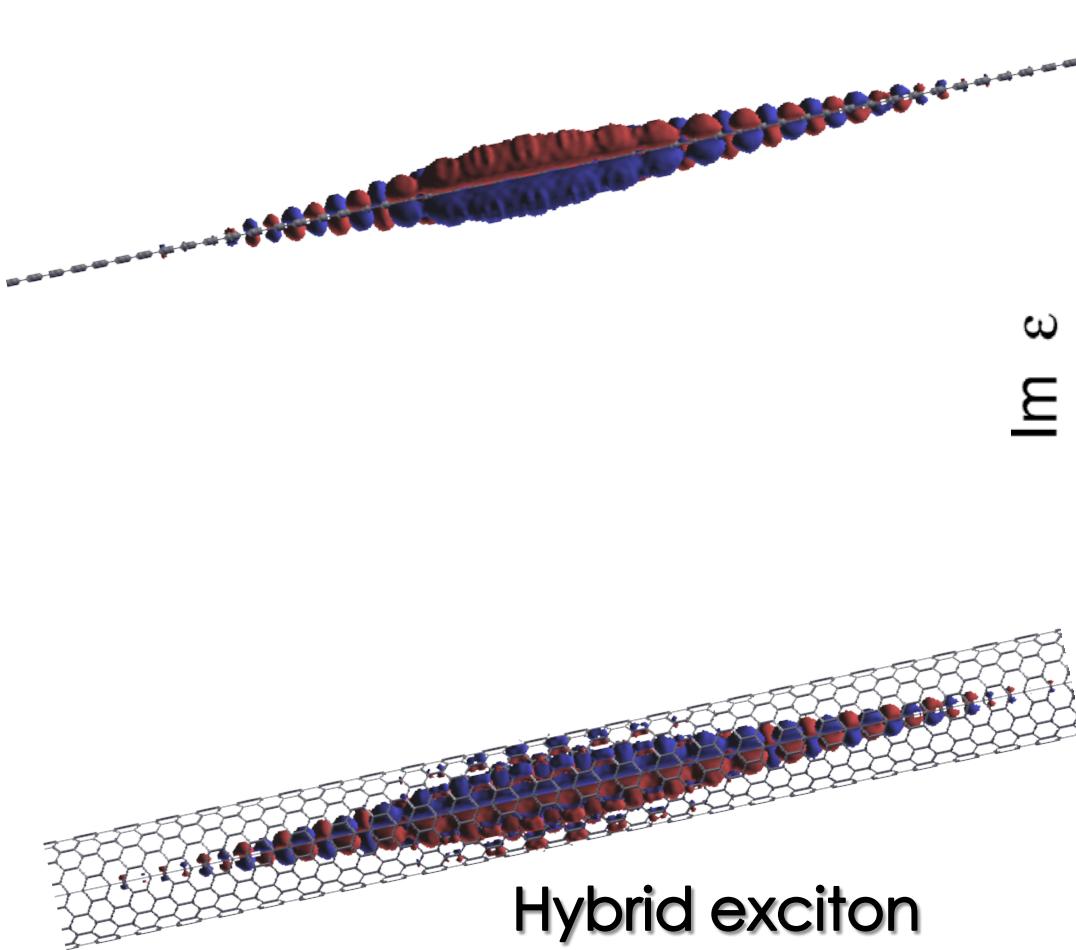
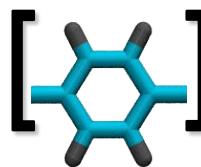


G. Jia, M. A. Loi, University of Groningen  
Milko, et. al., J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 4, 2664 (2013).

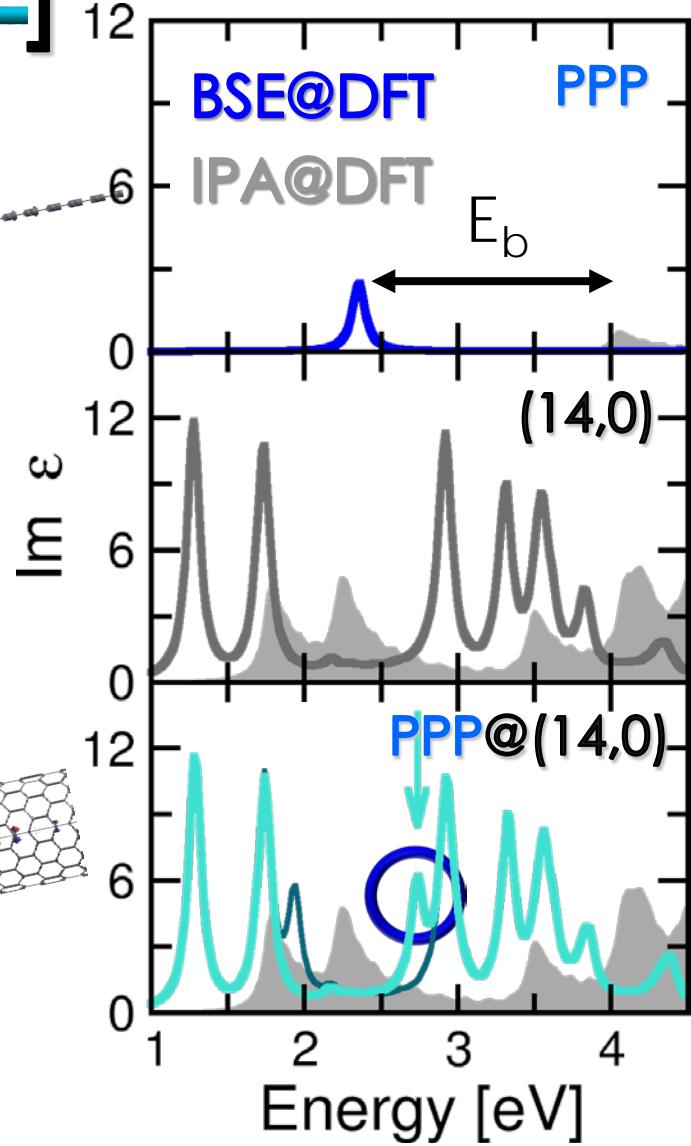
Peapods

# Excitonic spectra

Solving the BSE@DFT



Hybrid exciton

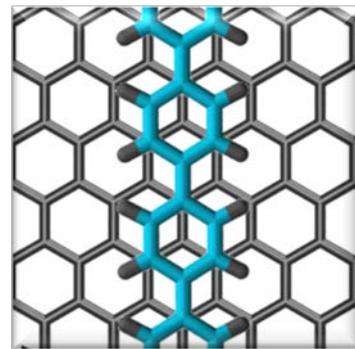
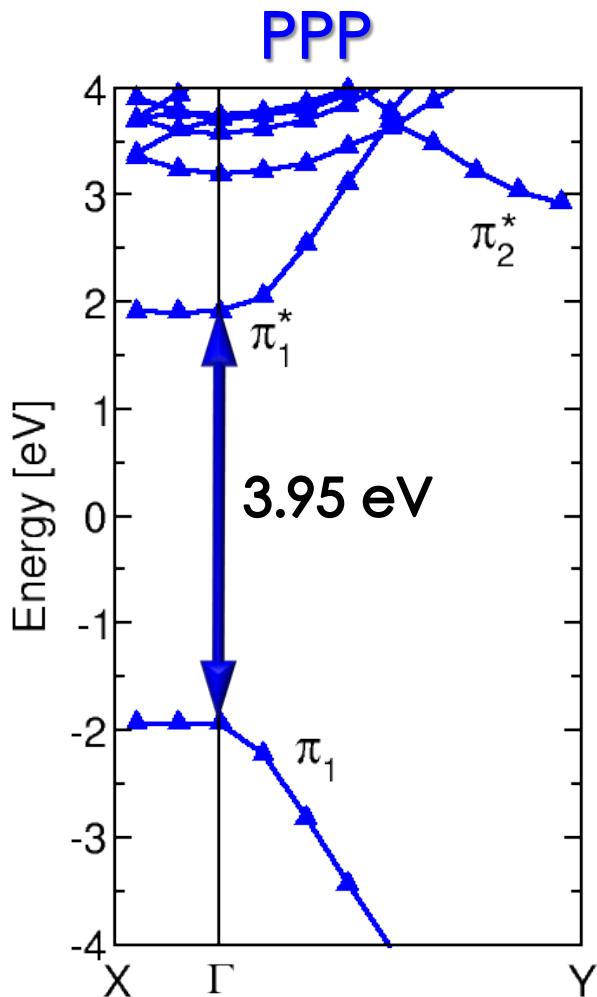


But experimentally no blue shift observed!

# PPP on graphene

$G_0W_0$ @LDA

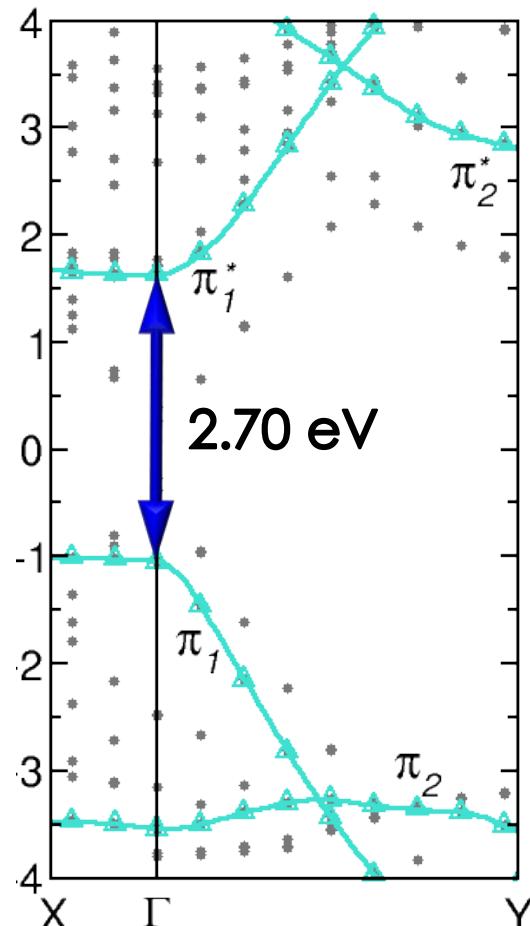
Decrease of gap on adsorption



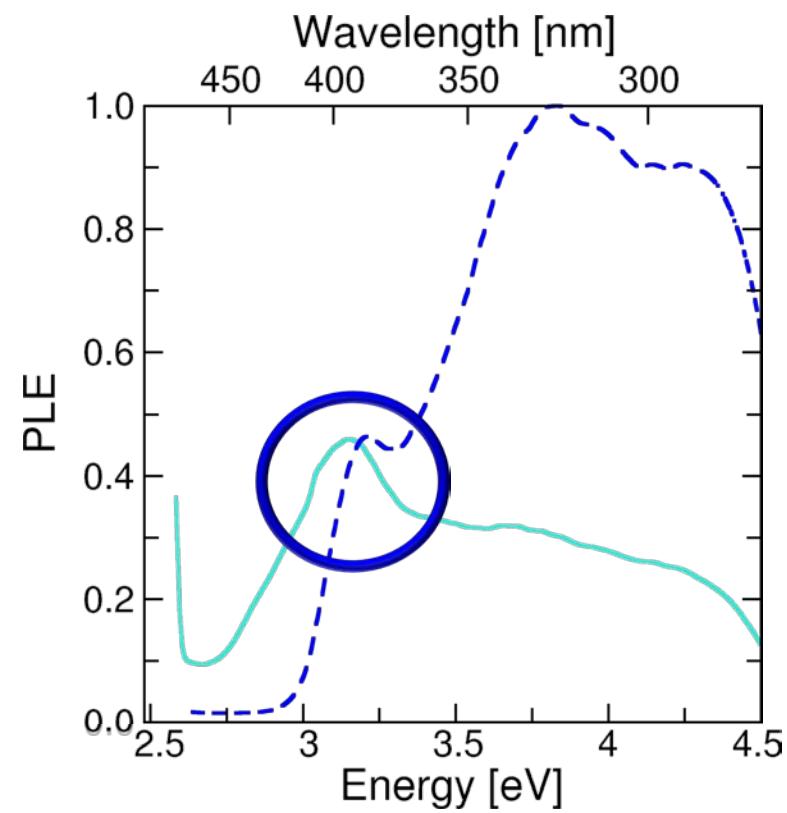
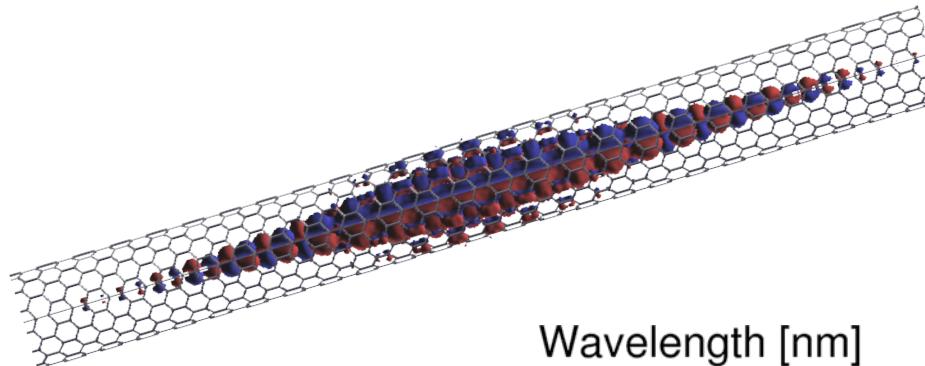
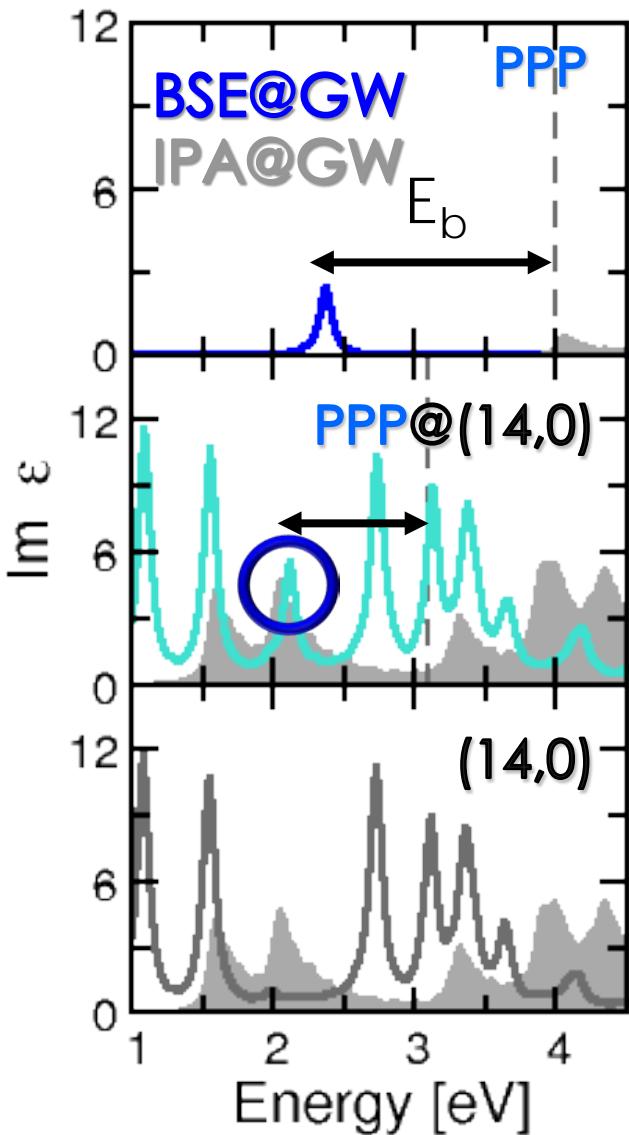
P. Puschnig, P. Amiri & CD  
PRB 86, 085107 (2012).

see J. Neaton *et al.*,  
PRL 97, 216405 (2006).  
**image-charge effect**

**PPP@graphene**



*Finally ...*

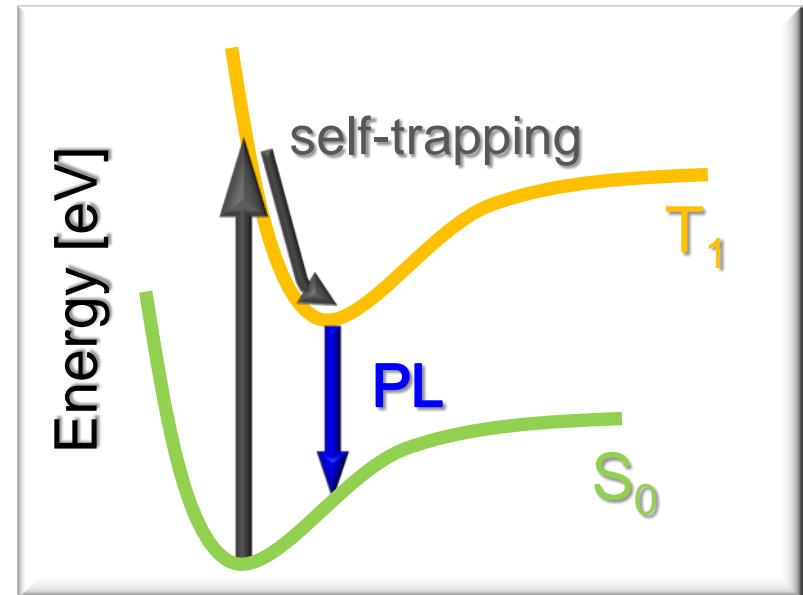


*Peapods*

# Challenges for ab initio theory

Light-emission

typically from the lowest (triplet) excitation



Dynamics

Exciton formation, diffusion, lifetimes

Interplay between electronic and vibrational degrees of freedom

*Outlook*

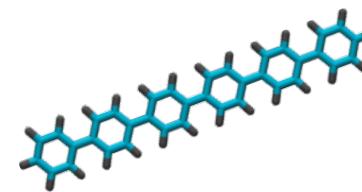
# Organic $\pi$ -conjugated molecules ...

exhibit exciting light-emitting properties

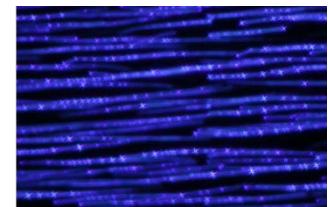


**band gaps in visible range**

are highly anisotropic



grow in various manners



**not trivial to control**

can be tailored to specific needs



are used for flexible applications



**... and are just fun !!**

*Summary*

**DFG**



**FWF**

**Thanks for your  
attention!**