

Reversible Switching of the Au (111) Work Function by Near Infrared Irradiation with a Bistable SAM based on a Radical Donor-Acceptor Dyad

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07/04/2021







Molecular electronics: charge injection barrier



Charge injection barrier in OFETs can be overcome by tuning **work function** of metals, by the presence of an interfacial **dipole** created by organic molecules arranged on the metal surface as **Self Assembled Monolayers** (SAMs).

Orgiu, E., Crivillers, N., Rotzler, J., Mayor, M. & Samorì, P. *J. Mater. Chem.* **20**, 10798–10800 (2010).

Molecular electronics: charge injection barrier

Molecular Switch

• <u>Bistability</u>: property of a molecular system able to evolve from a stable electronic state to another electronic state in a reversible and detectable fashion when applying an appropriate and controllable perturbation.



Interesting applications: Electronics, optics, magnetism, biological applications

Molecular electronics: molecular switch



Molecular electronics: molecular switch



and J. Veciana, Chem. Mater. 25, 808-814 (2013)..

λ (nm)

Preparation of SAMs and Characterization



Depolarization Effect and Contact Potential Difference (CPD)

Depolarization effect refers to a reduction in the magnitude of the dipole moment due to interactions between neighbouring molecules

Why the interface dipole is lower for the radical?



Calculated magnitudes in isolated molecules

Sample	μ _z [D]	α _{zz} 10 ⁻²⁴ [cm ³]
Fc	2.01	39.7
Fc-PTM (αH)	-0.3	120.7
Fc-PTM •	-1.24	151.6
	Dipole moment	Polarizability
	$\mu_{1-H} < \mu_1$	α _{1-H} < <mark>α</mark> 1

V. Diez-Cabanes, D. C. Morales, M. Souto, M. Paradinas, F. Delchiaro, A. Painelli, C. Ocal, D. Cornil, J. Cornil, J. Veciana, I. Ratera, Adv. Mater. Tech., 2018

KPFM: Work Function Modification





Molecular systems with high polarizabilities, like the radical, are able to trigger a charge reorganization working forward the dipole induced by NIR light.

V. Diez-Cabanesa, A. Gómez, M. Souto, N. González-Pato, J. Cornil, J. Veciana, I. Ratera, J. Mater. Chem. C, 2019, 7, 7418

KPFM: Work Function Modification pulse

Switch pulse

10 first curves with LED OFF10 curves with LED ONRepeated four times in a row,during 100 seconds in total.





- 1. Control of metal Work Function switch by applying an external stimulus
- 2. Work Function change due to charge reorganization inside the molecule
- **3.** ΔV= 265meV, highest value reported in literature
- 4. First work function switch controlled by Near-Infrared (NIR) irradiation



Acknowledgements



Prof. J. Veciana

Dr. I. Ratera

Dr. M. Souto

Dr. J. Guasch

V. Diaz-Cabanes

Dr. D. Morales

Dr. A. Kyvik

A. Gómez

Prof. C. Ocal

Prof. C. Rovira

Financial Support



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Centro Investigación Biomédica en Red Bioingenieria, Biomateriales y Nanomedicina







Collaborations



Prof. J. Cornil

V. Diaz-Cabanes



Anna Painelli







CSIC CONSEIO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS

Thank you for your kind attention!



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Supporting Slides







Donor-Acceptor systems



Building block – DONOR



Ferrocene (Fc)

- Electroactive molecule
- Behaviour like aromatic electronrich organic compound
- Thermal stability: stable at room temperature



Building block – ACCEPTOR



Polychlorotriphenylmethyl radical (PTM)

- Chemical and thermal stability
- Electroactive with low reduction potential
- Magnetically active

Donor-Acceptor systems



Preparation of SAMs



KPFM: Work Funcion Modification

- Measures the contact potential difference between the tip and the sample.
- Tapping mode

 V_{CPD} = $\phi_{tip} - \phi_{sample}$





UV-Vis spectra of SS-Fc-PTM: intramolecular electron transfer (IET), 950 nm



Previous works of the group

Effect of the Molecular Polarizability of SAMs on the Work Function Modification of Gold: Closedversus Open-Shell Donor–Acceptor SAMs

Adv. Mater. Technol. 2018, 1800152



Tuning the Rectification Ratio by Changing the Electronic Nature (Open-Shell and Closed-Shell) in Donor–Acceptor Self-Assembled Monolayers

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2017, 139, 4262-4265



Influence of the donor unit on the rectification ratio in tunnel junctions based on donor– acceptor SAMs using PTM units as acceptors

Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys., 2018, 20, 25638







Meeting 20.12.15 | Nerea González Pato



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