PROCEEDINGS OF SPIE

Physical Chemistry of Interfaces and Nanomaterials XIII

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Editors

17–20 August 2014
San Diego, California, United States

Sponsored and Published by
SPIE

Volume 9165

Proceedings of SPIE 0277-786X, V. 9165

Physical Chemistry of Interfaces and Nanomaterials XIII, edited by Natalie Banerji, Sophia C. Hayes, Carlos Silva, Proc. of SPIE Vol. 9165, 916501 · © 2014 SPIE
CCC code: 0277-786X/14/$18 · doi: 10.1117/12.2081199

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Author(s), "Title of Paper," in *Physical Chemistry of Interfaces and Nanomaterials XIII*, edited by Natalie Banerji, Sophia C. Hayes, Carlos Silva, Proceedings of SPIE Vol. 9165 (SPIE, Bellingham, WA, 2014) Article CID Number.

ISSN: 0277-786X
ISBN: 9781628411928

Published by
SPIE
P.O. Box 10, Bellingham, Washington 98227-0010 USA
Telephone +1 360 676 3290 (Pacific Time) · Fax +1 360 647 1445
SPIE.org

Printed in the United States of America.

Publication of record for individual papers is online in the SPIE Digital Library.

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Contents

v *Authors*
vii *Conference Committee*
ix *Introduction*

CHARGE GENERATION AT ORGANIC INTERFACES I

9165 08 **Competing role of quantum localization and interfacial disorder in determining triplet exciton fission and recombination dynamics in polymer/fullerene photovoltaics (Invited Paper)** [9165-7]

CHARGE GENERATION AT ORGANIC INTERFACES II

9165 09 **Two-dimensional polaron coherence in Poly(3-hexylthiophene) (Invited Paper)** [9165-8]

9165 0C **X-ray photoemission spectroscopy study of vertical phase separation in F8BT:PDI/ITO films for photovoltaic applications** [9165-11]

SPECTROSCOPIC TECHNIQUES TO PROBE KINETICS OF ENERGY AND CHARGE TRANSFER AT INTERFACES

9165 0J **Exciton hopping in carbon nanotube solar cells studied with 2D white-light spectroscopy (Invited Paper)** [9165-18]

9165 0K **Direct measurement of energy transport in organic nanosystems (Invited Paper)** [9165-19]

9165 0L **Optical properties of conjugated materials and their aggregates: towards imaging of films and devices** [9165-20]

PHOTOPHYSICS AT HYBRID INTERFACES

9165 0N **Two-electron photo-oxidation of betanin on titanium dioxide and potential for improved dye-sensitized solar energy conversion (Invited Paper)** [9165-22]

9165 0P **Ultrafast electron transfer from low band gap conjugated polymer to quantum dots in hybrid photovoltaic materials (Invited Paper)** [9165-24]

HYBRID AND INORGANIC NANOMATERIALS I

9165 0S **Effect of atomic under-coordination on the properties of Ag and Cu nanoclusters** [9165-27]

9165 0T **Spectroelectrochemical photoluminescence of titanium dioxide nanosheets and nanoparticles in aqueous and nonaqueous environments** [9165-28]

9165 0U **Ultrafast infrared spectroscopy reveals intragap states in methylammonium lead iodide perovskite materials (Invited Paper)** [9165-29]

PROPERTIES AND APPLICATIONS OF NOVEL PEROVSKITE-BASED NANOMATERIALS I

9165 0Y **The photophysics of perovskite solar cells (Invited Paper)** [9165-33]

CHARGE TRANSFER AT THE ORGANIC HETEROJUNCTION I: JOINT SESSION WITH CONFERENCES 9165 AND 9184

9165 0Z **Optical properties of low bandgap copolymer PTB7 for organic photovoltaic applications (Invited Paper)** [9165-34]

HYBRID AND INORGANIC NANOMATERIALS II

9165 16 **Assessment of cytotoxicity and oxidative effect of Bismuth Ferrite (BFO) harmonic nanoparticles for localized DNA photo-interaction (Invited Paper)** [9165-41]

9165 19 **Quantum dots: using the known as well as exploring the unknown (Invited Paper)** [9165-44]

PHYSICAL UNDERSTANDING OF BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

9165 1E **Drug/protein interactions studied by time-resolved fluorescence spectroscopy (Invited Paper)** [9165-49]

9165 1F **PEGylated nanoparticles: protein corona and secondary structure (Invited Paper)** [9165-50]

9165 1H **Role of ZnS shell on stability, cytotoxicity, and photocytotoxicity of water-soluble CdSe semiconductor quantum dots surface modified with glutathione** [9165-71]

POSTER SESSION

9165 1N **A striking mobility improvement of C_{60} OFET by inserting diindenoperylene layer between C_{60} and SiO_2 gate insulator** [9165-58]

9165 1O **Preparation of flexible TiO_2 photoelectrodes for dye-sensitized solar cells** [9165-59]

Authors

Numbers in the index correspond to the last two digits of the six-digit citation identifier (CID) article numbering system used in Proceedings of SPIE. The first four digits reflect the volume number. Base 36 numbering is employed for the last two digits and indicates the order of articles within the volume. Numbers start with 00, 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 0A, 0B...0Z, followed by 10-1Z, 20-2Z, etc.

Ahmadi, Shideh, 0S
Ahmed, Wafaa, 1H
Aluicio-Sardui, E., 0C
Bakker, Huib J., 0U
Bakulin, Artem A., 0U
Basel, Tek, 0Z
Beaupré, S., 0C
Berti, G., 0C
Bittner, Eric R., 08
Bonacina, Luigi, 16
Bonancía, Paula, 1E
Bradforth, Stephen E., 0P
Brambilla, A., 0C
Brutchey, Richard L., 0P
Bussolotti, Fabio, 1N
Butt, H.-J., 0C
Calloni, A., 0C
Chen, Zhuoying, 0U
Ciepielewski, Daniel, 16
Clark, Katie A., 0K
Cochran, Victoria L., 1F
Couderc, Elsa, 0P
Devi, Diane, 0L
Duò, L., 0C
Floudas, G., 0C
Gerber-Lemaire, Sandrine, 16
Gong, Yinyan, 0S
Greaney, Matthew J., 0P
Gustavsson, Thomas, 1E
Hill, Alexandra, 1F
Hinderhofer, Alexander, 1N
Hong, Jiyun, 0L
Huynh, Uyen, 0Z
Ibrahim, Salwa Ali, 1H
Jeon, SuKyung, 0L
Jiménez, M. Consuelo, 1E
Kan, Z., 0C
Keivanidis, P. E., 0C
Kera, Satoshi, 1N
Kim, Janice, 0L
Knorr, Fritz J., 0N, 0T
Koen, Katherine A., 0K
Leclerc, M., 0C
Levitt, Jonathan M., 19
Li, Wen-Ren, 1O
Lin, Chia-Feng, 1O
Lu, Luyao, 0Z
Magouroux, Thibaud, 16
Malamen, Deborah J., 0N
Marchioro, Arianna, 0N
Markovitsi, Dimitra, 1E
McHale, Jeanne L., 0N, 0T
Miranda, Miguel A., 1E
Mokari, Taleb, 19
Moser, Jacques E., 0N
Oron, Dan, 19
Passemard, Solène, 16
Payne, Christine K., 1F
Peteanu, Linda A., 0L
Pochas, C. M, 09
Rex, Riley E., 0T
Rukenstien, Pazit, 19
Runa, Sabiha, 1F
Schwartz, Osip, 19
Sfeir, Matthew Y., 0L
Shreve, Andrew P., 0L
Spano, F. C., 09
Staedler, Davide, 16
Su, Chaochin, 1O
Sum, Tze Chien, 0Y
Sun, Chang Q., 0S
Sun, Zhenhua, 0U
Teitelboim, Ayelet, 19
Tenne, Ron, 19
Thornbury, William, 0P
Ueno, Nobuo, 1N
Vanden Bout, David A., 0K
Vardeny, Valy, 0Z
Vayá, Ignacio, 1E
Wang, Hsiu-Hsuan, 1O
Werner, James H., 0L
Wildeman, Jurjen, 0L
Wolf, Jean-Pierre, 16
Xu, Tao, 0Z
Yamagata, Hajime, 09
Yang, Jin-peng, 1N
Yonezawa, Keiichiro, 1N
Youssef, Tareq, 1H
Yu, Luping, 0Z
Zanni, Martin T., 0J
Zhang, Xi, 0S
Zheng, Tianyue, 0Z

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1 Singlet Exciton Fission in Organic Semiconductors
Eric R. Bittner, University of Houston (United States)

2 Charge Generation at Organic Interfaces I
Natalie Banerji, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (Switzerland)

3 Charge Generation at Organic Interfaces II
David S. Ginger, University of Washington (United States)

4 Charge Transfer Across Device Interfaces
Natalie Stingelin, Imperial College London (United Kingdom)

5 Spectroscopic Techniques to Probe Kinetics of Energy and Charge Transfer at Interfaces
Jeanne L. McHale, Washington State University (United States)

6 Photophysics at Hybrid Interfaces
David A. Vanden Bout, The University of Texas at Austin (United States)

7 Hybrid and Inorganic Nanomaterials I
Charles Schmuttenmaer, Yale University (United States)

8 Properties and Applications of Novel Perovskite-based Nanomaterials I
Nripan Mathews, Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)

9 Charge Transfer at the Organic Heterojunction I: Joint Session with Conferences 9165 and 9184
Barry P. Rand, Princeton University (United States)

10 Charge Transfer at the Organic Heterojunction II: Joint Session with Conferences 9165 and 9184
Z. Valy Vardeny, The University of Utah (United States)

11 Emerging Experimental Tools for Biophysics
Luigi Bonacina, Université de Genève (Switzerland)

12 Hybrid and Inorganic Nanomaterials II
Artem A. Bakulin, FOM Institute for Atomic and Molecular Physics (Netherlands)

13 Properties and Applications of Novel Perovskite-based Nanomaterials II
Jacques E. Moser, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (Switzerland)

14 Physical Understanding of Biological Systems
Sophia C. Hayes, University of Cyprus (Cyprus)

Introduction

Interfaces play a key role in the function of a plethora of chemical systems spanning the range from biological membranes, solid state materials, catalysts, all the way to organic bulk heterojunction materials for photovoltaics. The "Physical Chemistry of Interfaces and Nanomaterals" Conference provides a venue for the intermixing of physical chemists, physicists, biophysicists, and chemical engineers that can foster new ideas that can advance each other's field.

This year's thirteenth edition of the conference moved along the spirit of previous years including sessions on charge generation at organic interfaces, charge transfer across device interfaces, photophysics of hybrid photovoltaic systems, hybrid and inorganic nanomaterials, and physical understanding of biological systems. Two sessions were dedicated to properties and applications of novel perovskite-based nanomaterials, given the heightened recent interest of the optoelectronics community in these materials, and one session to singlet exciton fission in organic semiconductors. A new feature this year was also the inclusion of sessions dedicated to experimental methods for probing kinetics of energy and charge transfer at interfaces as well as emerging experimental tools for biophysics.

The common interest in organic photovoltaics spurred two joint sessions this year with the "Organic Photovoltaics XV" conference on charge transfer at the organic heterojunction. A real melting pot of experimentalists striving for uncovering the fundamental mechanisms behind device efficiencies, others discovering novel spectroscopic methods to study those interfaces and theoreticians modelling charge generation processes.

Overall, this was an exciting conference with lively discussions and fruitful exchanges of ideas.

We are grateful to SPIE, the Organizing Committee and most of all to the speakers that contributed to the success of this meeting.

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Sophia C. Hayes
Carlos Silva