

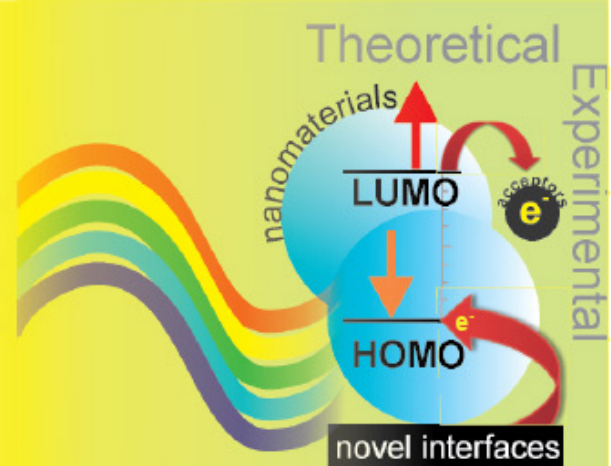


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UCSB

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
SANTA BARBARA

*PREM*



# Fundamental Molecular and Interfacial Design for Next Generation Photovoltaic Systems



# PREM People and Concepts

Luis Echegoyen – PI - Chemistry

Tunna Baruah - Physics

Gabby Gándara - Engineering

Michael Irwin - Chemistry

Juan Noverón - Chemistry

José Nuñez - Chemistry

Chintalapalle Ramana (Mech. Eng.)

David Zubia – Elec. Eng.

Craig Hawker – co-PI - Materials

Michael Chabinyk - Materials

Kris Delaney - Materials

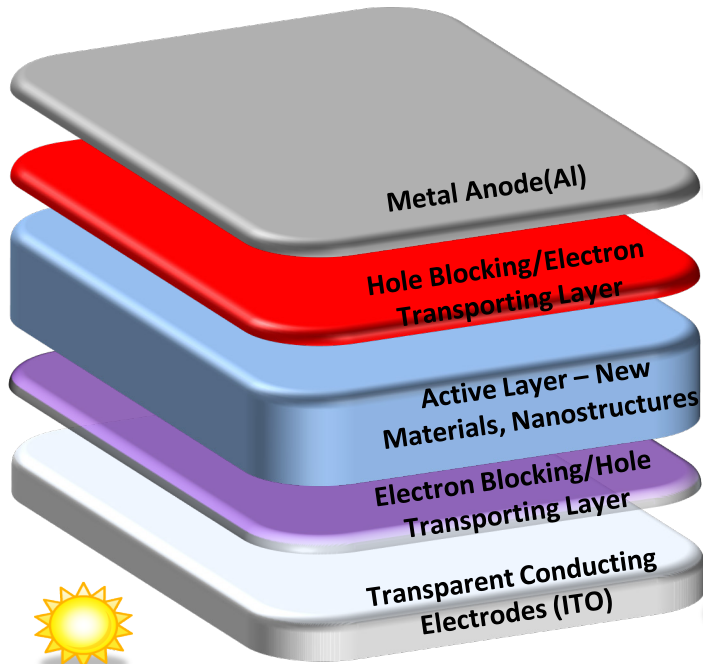
Glenn Fredrickson – Chem. Eng.

Dorothy Pak - Materials

Javier Read de Alaniz - Chemistry

Ram Seshadri - Chemistry

Fred Wudl - Chemistry



Metal Anode (Al)

Hole Blocking/Electron  
Transporting Layer

Active Layer - New  
Materials, Nanostructures

Electron Blocking/Hole  
Transporting Layer

Transparent Conducting  
Electrodes (ITO)

Baruah, Chabinyk, Delaney, Echegoyen, Irwin,  
Nuñez, Zubia

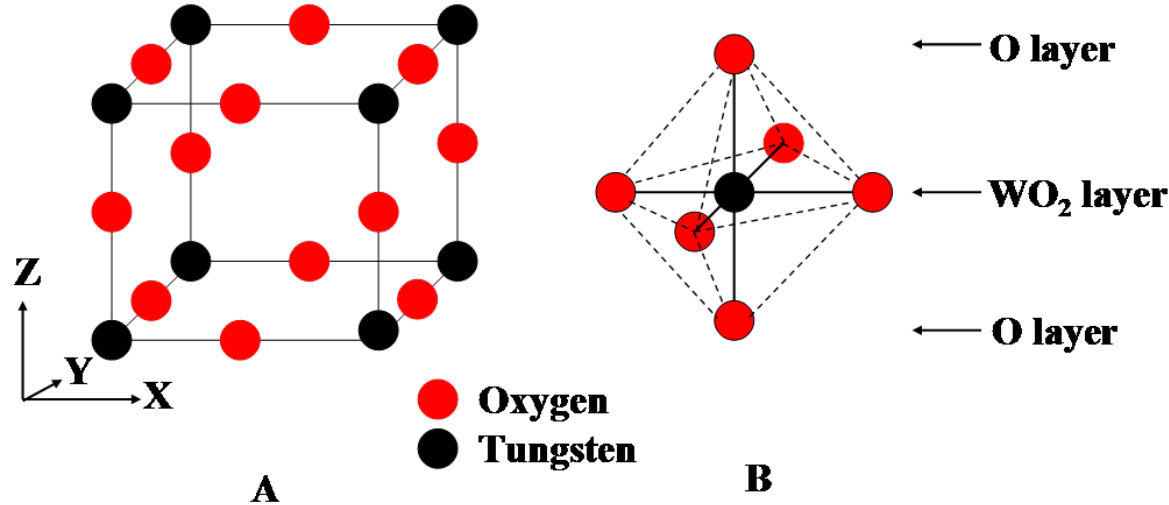
Baruah, Echegoyen, Frederickson, Hawker, Irwin,  
Noverón, Nuñez, Wudl

Baruah, Chabinyk, Echegoyen, Irwin, Read de  
Alaniz, Zubia

Baruah, Delaney, Irwin, Ramana, Seshadri, Zubia

V

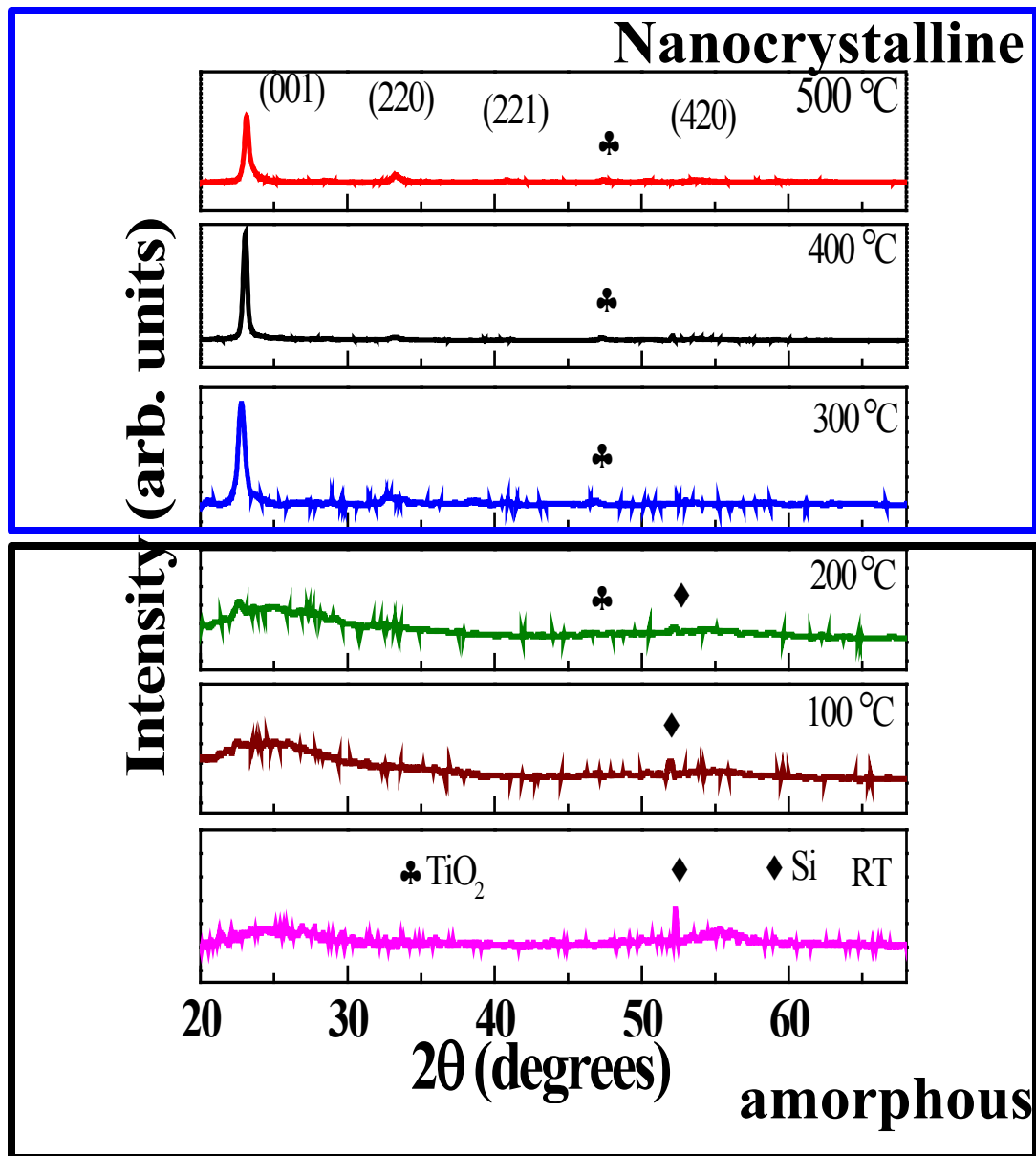
# Investigation of Indium Free Transparent Conducting Oxides for Application in Photovoltaics (C. V. Ramana and R. Seshadri - leaders)



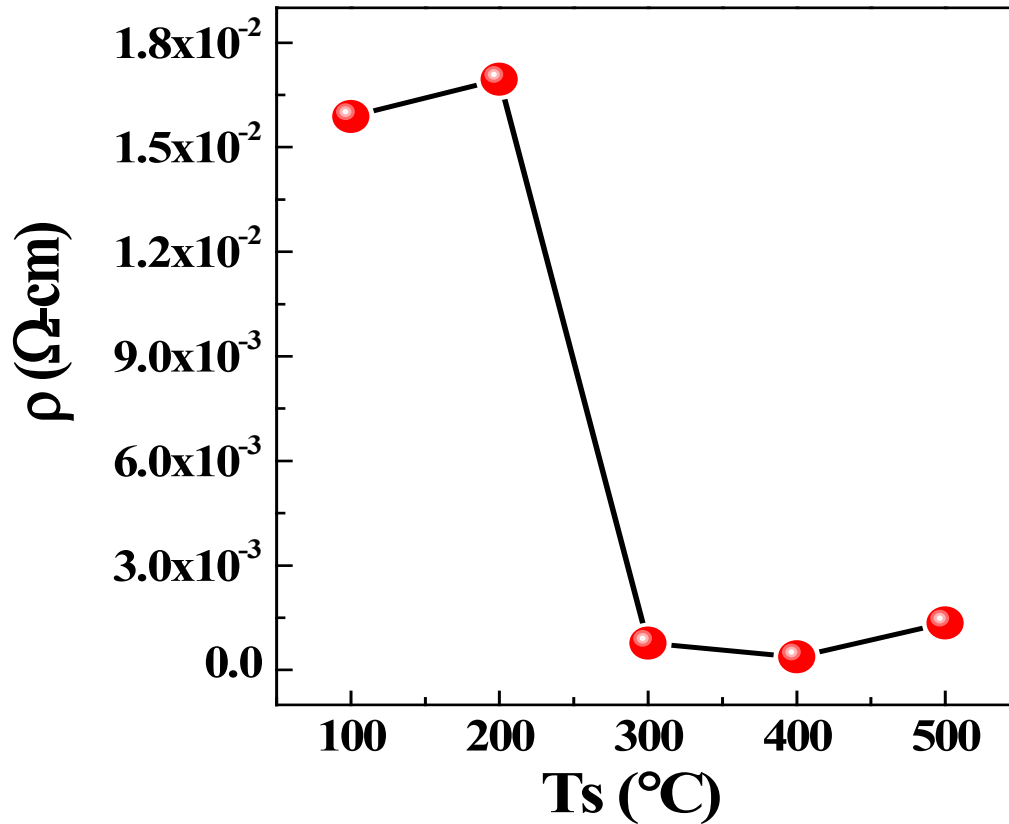
| Phase             | Symmetry     | Temperature Range (K) |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| $\alpha - WO_3$   | Tetragonal   | 1010 – 1170           |
| $\beta - WO_3$    | Orthorhombic | 600 – 1170            |
| $\gamma - WO_3$   | Monoclinic   | 290 – 600             |
| $\delta - WO_3$   | Triclinic    | 230 – 290             |
| $\epsilon - WO_3$ | Monoclinic   | 0 - 230               |

Source: P. A. Cox, *Transition Metal Oxides*, 1995 (Oxford)

# W-Ti-O Thin Films – Structure



# W-Ti-O Thin Films – Electrical



N.R. Kalidindi et al., *Appl. Phys. Lett.* (2010)

# Theoretical Work Already Started - Delaney

## Summary

### WO<sub>3</sub> surface (in progress):

- Work function vs. interface orientation
- Reconstructions & surface termination
- Surface gap states

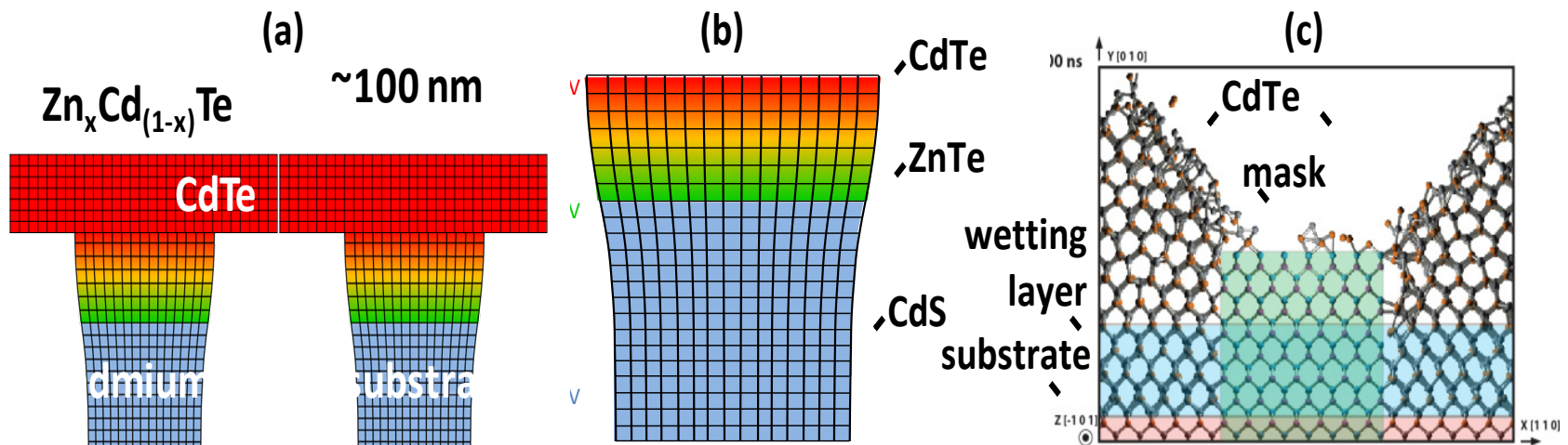
### WO<sub>3</sub> conductivity:

- Electrical character & E<sub>form</sub> of Ti doping
- Alternative dopants, especially *p*-type

### WO<sub>3</sub>/P3HT interface:

- Donor/anode interface alignment vs. orientation
- Structure optimization?

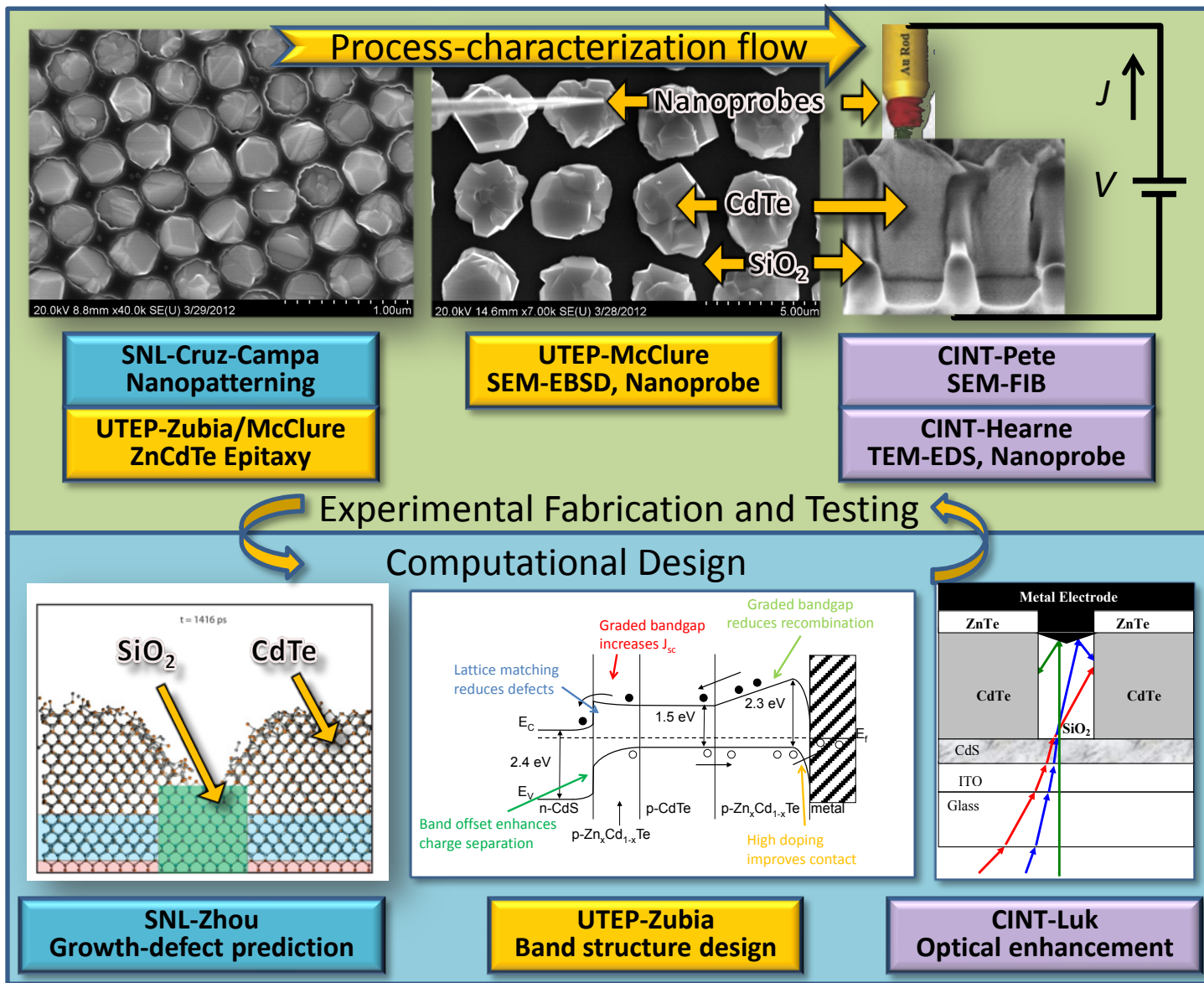
# Molecular Dynamics Simulation of Strained, Nanoscale Crystal Growth using Bond Order Potentials (D. Zubia, X. Zhou, and K. Delaney - leaders)



(a) Strained, nanoscale crystal growth of  $ZnCdTe$  on  $CdS$ , (b) 3D strain partitioning in  $ZnCdTe/CdS$ , (c) MD bond-order potential simulation of 10% strained, selective-area growth of  $CdTe$ .

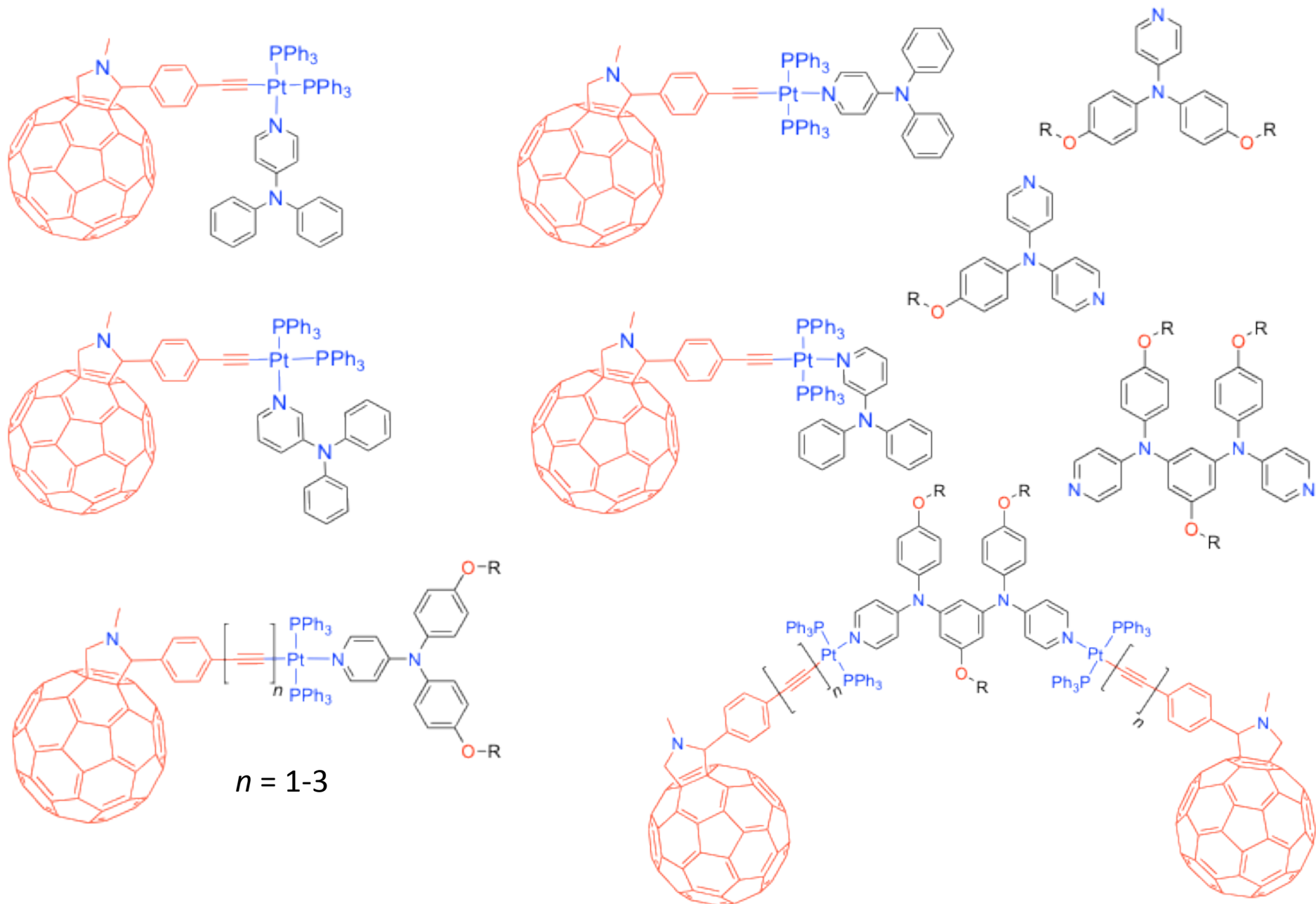
# Concept and Methodology

Comprehensive Experimental and Simulation Aspects

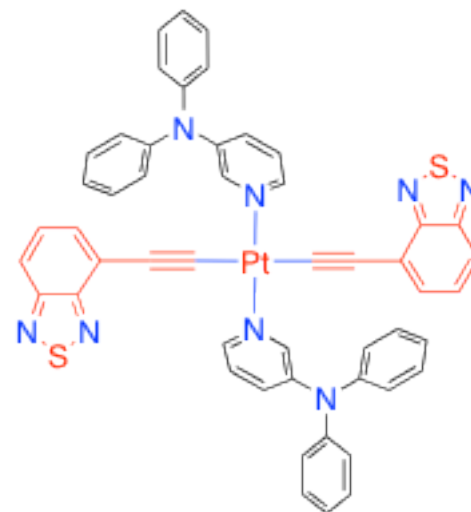
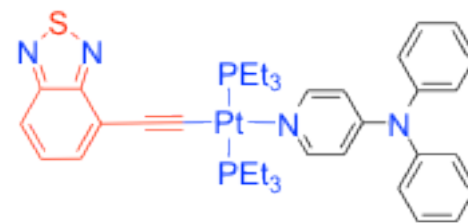
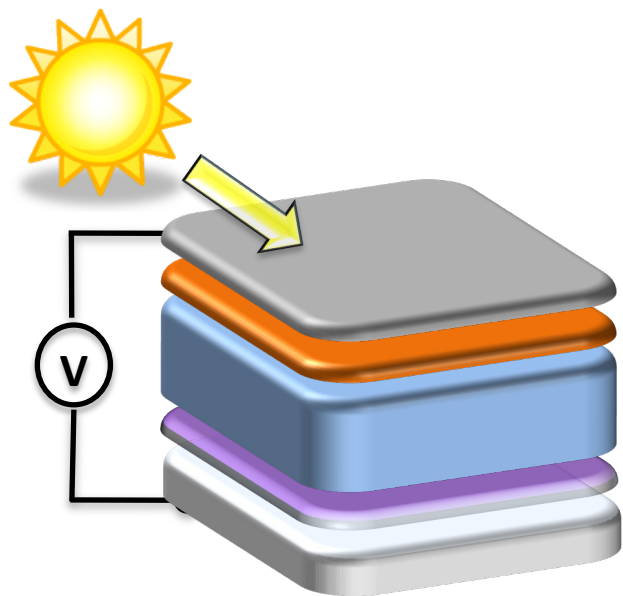




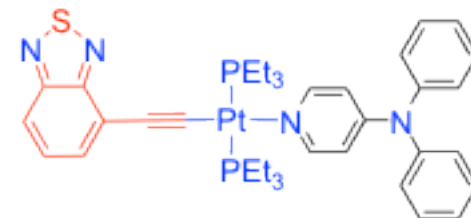
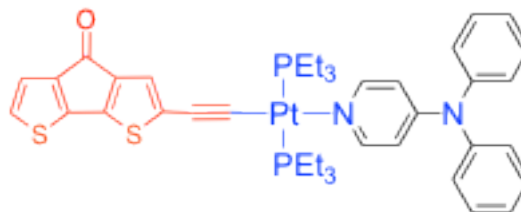
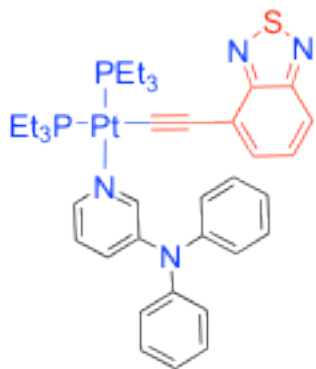
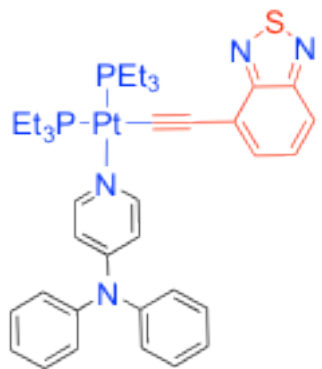
# $\sigma$ -Alkynyl Complexes of Platinum and Pyridine Amines as Potential Photovoltaic Materials. (J. Nuñez and J. Read de Alaniz - leaders)



## Future work

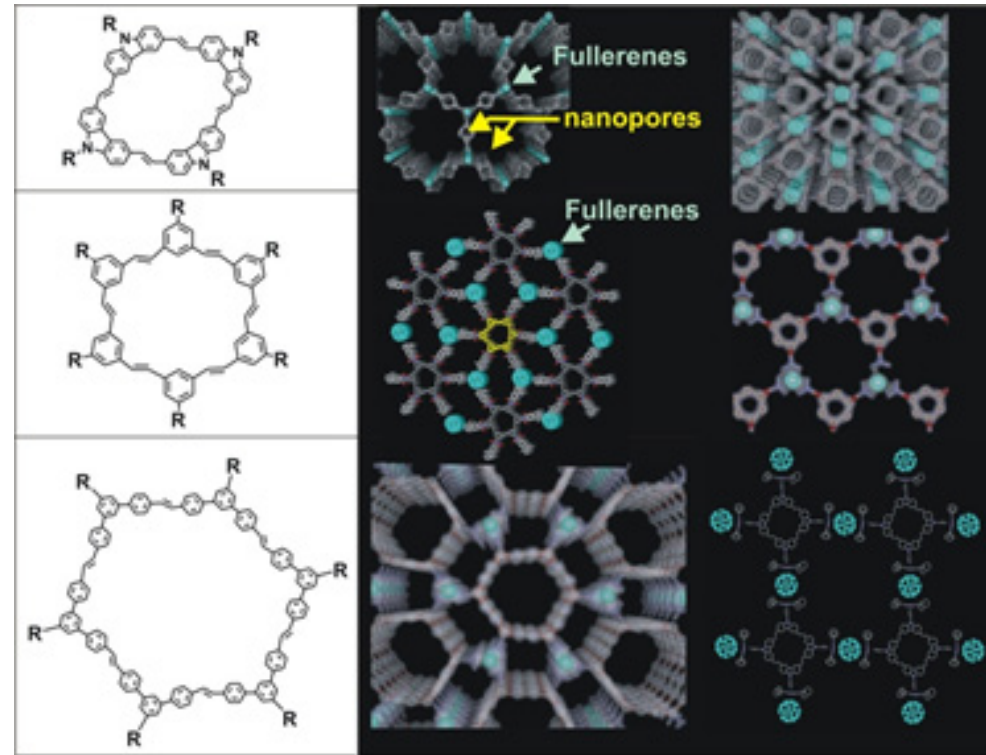
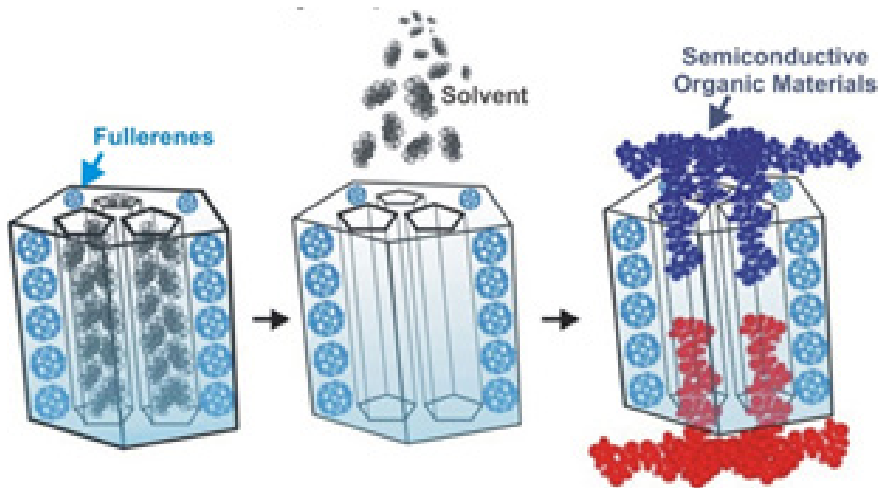


## Other targets



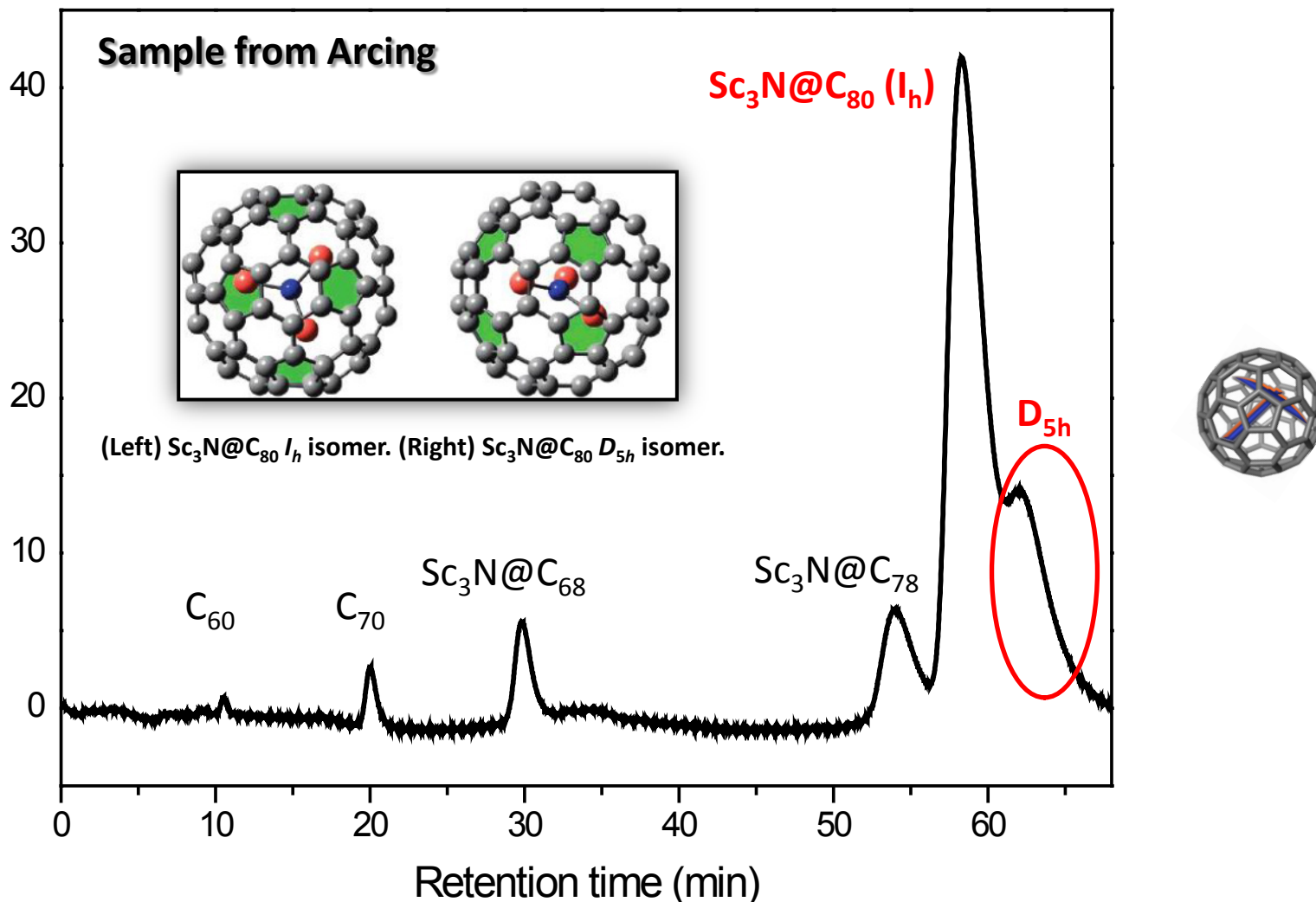
# Novel Fullerene Nanostructures and Heterojunction Interfaces (J. Noverón and C.J. Hawker - leaders)

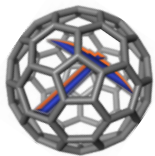
Crystalline fullerene systems designed with large porosities expected to be solvent-filled, and upon desolvation, may allow for post-assembly inclusion structures with semiconductor materials



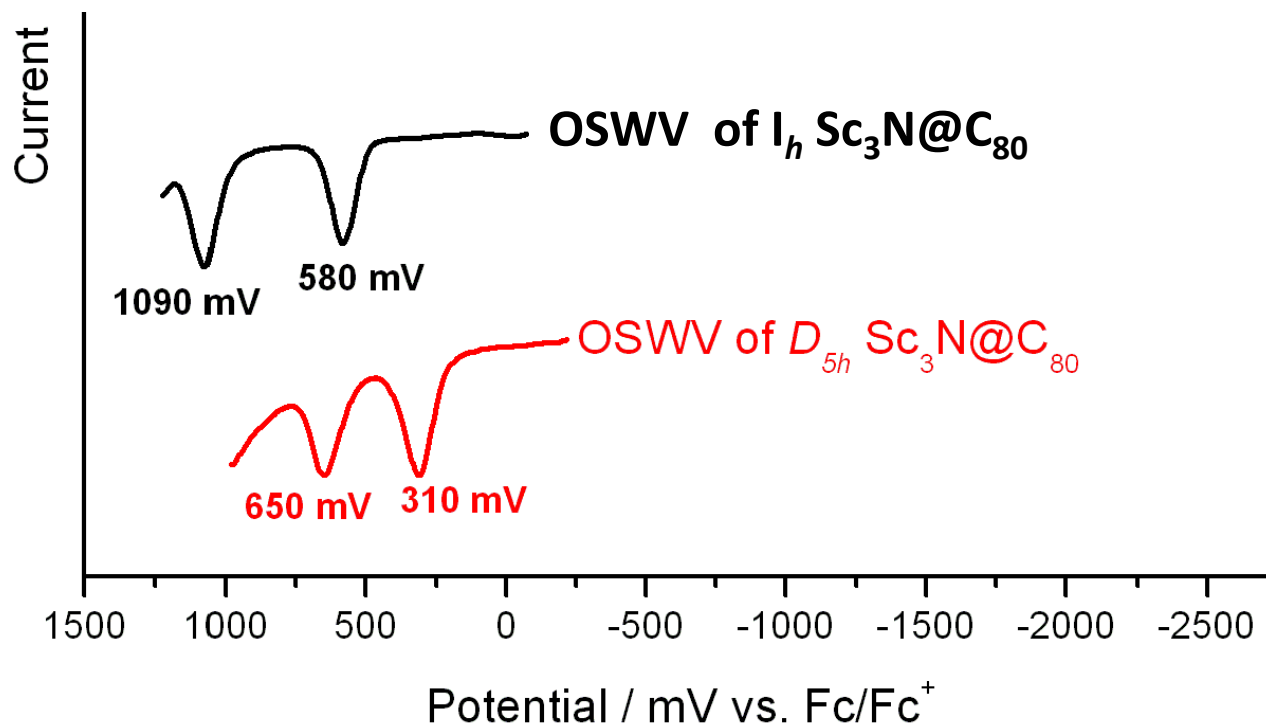
# Redox-Based Methods to Prepare Macroscopic Quantities of New Endohedral Fullerenes and their Derivatives for Photovoltaics (PV) (L. Echegoyen and F. Wudl - leaders)

## Isomeric Separation of $I_h$ and $D_{5h}$ $Sc_3N@C_{80}$ by Selective Chemical Oxidation

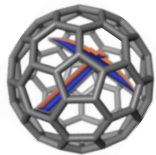




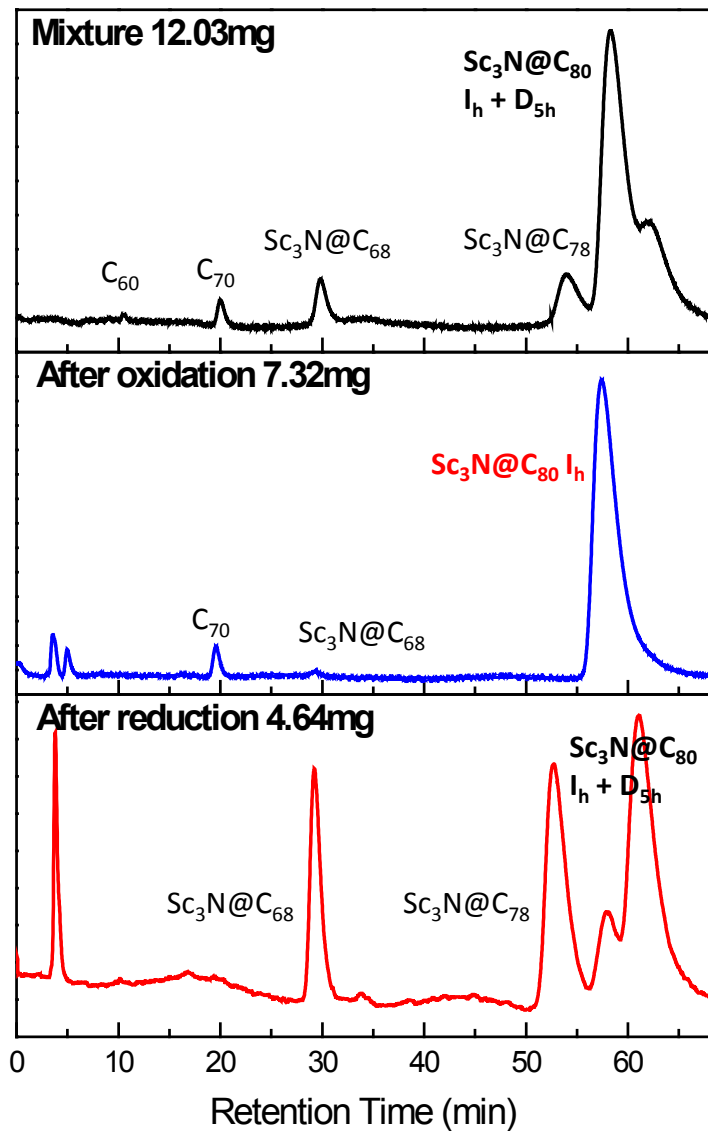
# OSWV of $I_h$ and $D_{5h}$ $Sc_3N@C_{80}$



Stevenson, Mackey, Coumbe, Phillips, Elliott, and Echegoyen  
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 129, 6072-6073, 2007



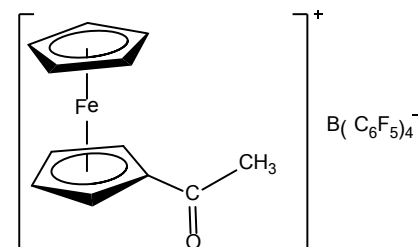
# Isomeric Separation of $I_h$ and $D_{5h}$ $Sc_3N@C_{80}$ , and $Sc_3N@C_{78}$ by Selective Chemical Oxidation



**Mixture** @ $C_{80}$  65.44%  $I_h$  +  
 24.20%  $D_{5h}$

@ $C_{78}$  6.09%, @ $C_{68}$  3.45%  
 $C_{70}$  0.62%,  $C_{60}$  0.20%

with 11.02mg salt

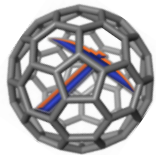


**Oxidation 1** @ $C_{80}$  94.52%  $I_h$

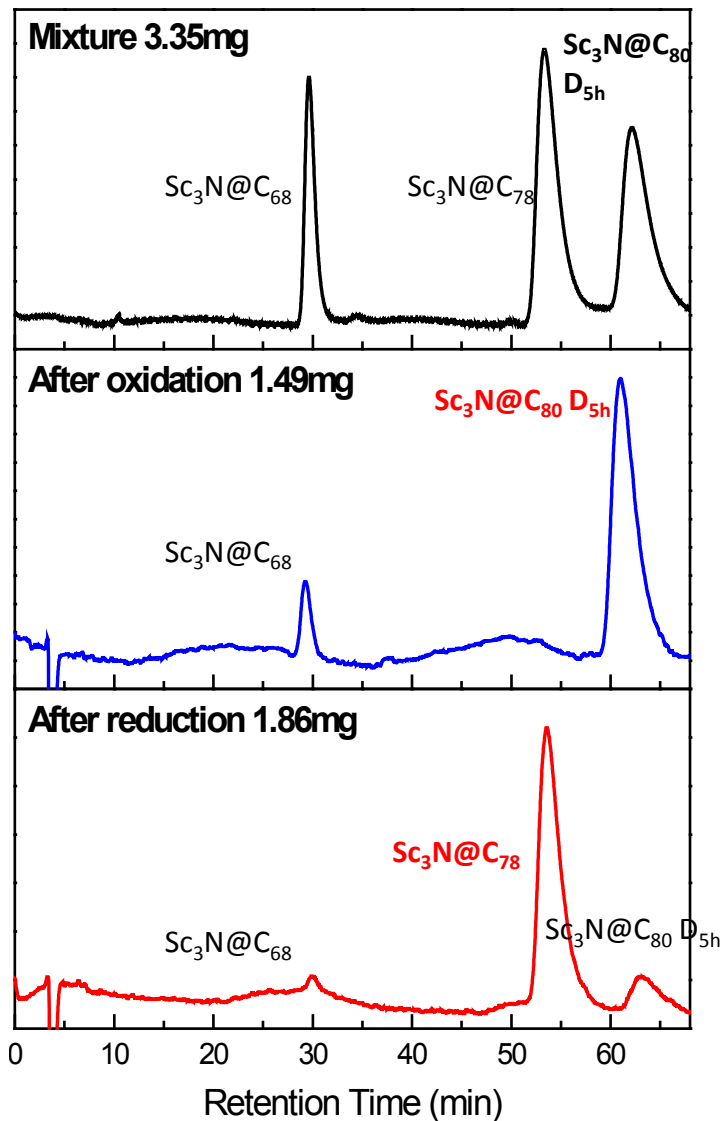
@ $C_{68}$  0.38%,  $C_{70}$  5.10%

**Reduction 1** @ $C_{80}$  8.58%  $I_h$  +  
 39.27%  $D_{5h}$

@ $C_{78}$  26.67%, @ $C_{68}$  26.03%



# Isomeric Separation of $I_h$ and $D_{5h}$ $Sc_3N@C_{80}$ , and $Sc_3N@C_{78}$ by Selective Chemical Oxidation

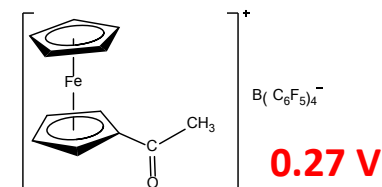


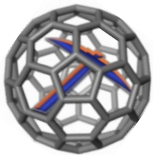
**Mixture** @ $C_{80}$  37.92%  $D_{5h}$   
 @ $C_{68}$  7.39%,  $C_{78}$  54.69%  
 with 2.58mg salt

**Oxidation 3** 90.52%  $D_{5h}$   
 @ $C_{68}$  9.48%

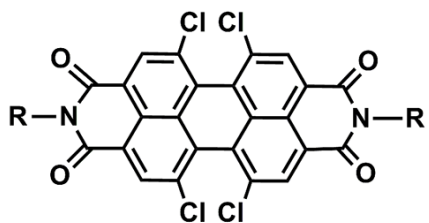
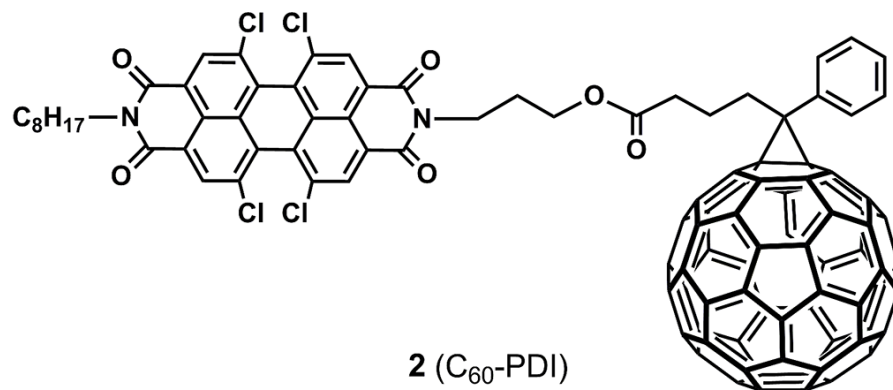
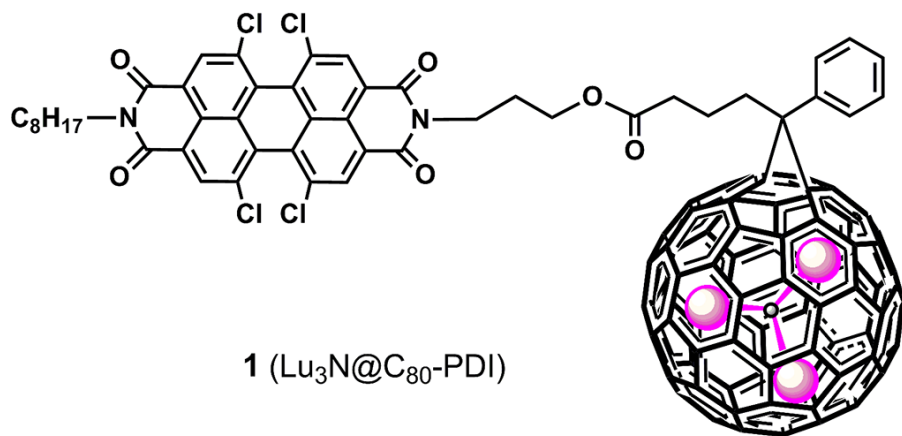
**Reduction 3** @ $C_{80}$  7.50%  $D_{5h}$   
 @ $C_{68}$  1.34%,  $C_{78}$  91.16%

| Fullerene             | $E_p^{ox}$ (V) vs Fc/Fc <sup>+</sup> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| $Sc_3N@I_h-C_{80}$    | 0.59                                 |
| $Sc_3N@D_{5h}-C_{80}$ | 0.32                                 |
| $Sc_3N@D_3-C_{68}$    | 0.33                                 |
| $Sc_3N@D_{3h}-C_{78}$ | 0.21                                 |



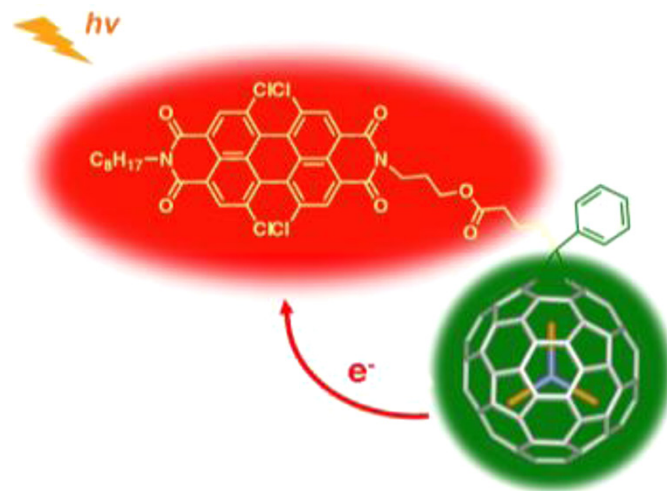


# Fullerenes as Donors in Organic Solar Cells?



8:  $\text{R} = -\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}$

11:  $\text{R} = -\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}$



Feng, Rudolf, Wolfrum, Troeger, Slanina, Akasaka, Nagase, Martín, Ameri, Brabec, and Guldi  
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 12190–12197

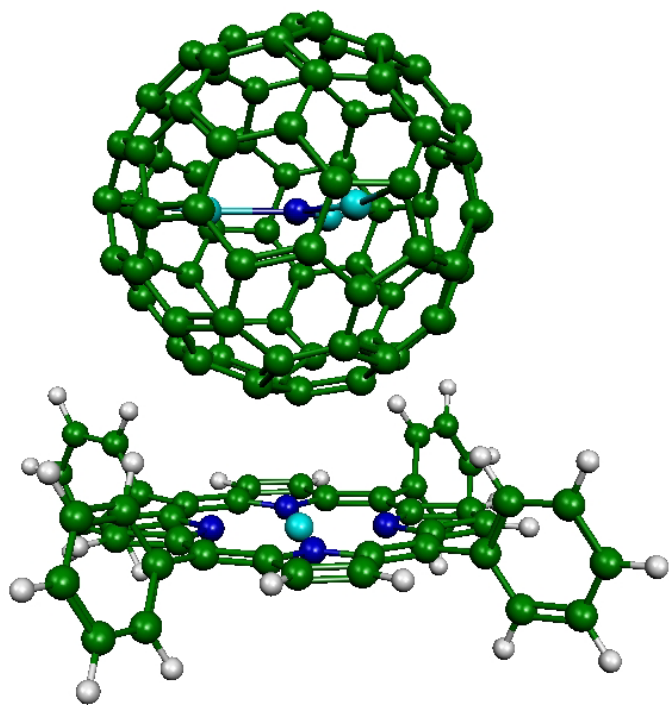


# Simulation of Charge and Energy Transfer in Organic Photovoltaics (T. Baruah and K. Delaney - leaders)

## Work in progress/proposed :

- Model donor-acceptor systems with endohedral  $\text{Sc}_3\text{N}@C_{80}$  fullerene as acceptor : Electronic structure.
- Fullerene derivatives as acceptors: changes in electronic structure and CT energies.
- Solvent polarization for DA molecular conjugates – effect on the CT states.
- Energy transfer rates in DA complexes.
- Small clusters of doped  $\text{WO}_3$  – its electronic structure and optical properties.

# Sc<sub>3</sub>NC<sub>80</sub>-TPP and Sc<sub>3</sub>N@C<sub>80</sub>-ZnTPP Model Compound



- Two conformers of each complex are being studied.
- Figure shows an optimized conformer with ZnTPP facing a 6:6 bond of the fullerene. The complex was optimized at the all-electron generalized gradient level.
- Center-to-center separation: 7.35 Ang.
- DFT HOMO-LUMO gap: 1.05 eV (underestimated in DFT, not actual gap)
- Ground state dipole moment : 0.6 Debye (from fullerene to ZnTPP).
- Further calculations on IP, EA, CT energetics are in progress.

# **Education and Outreach**

**(Gabby Gándara and Dorothy Pak)**

**University of California - Santa Barbara**

**University of Texas at El Paso**

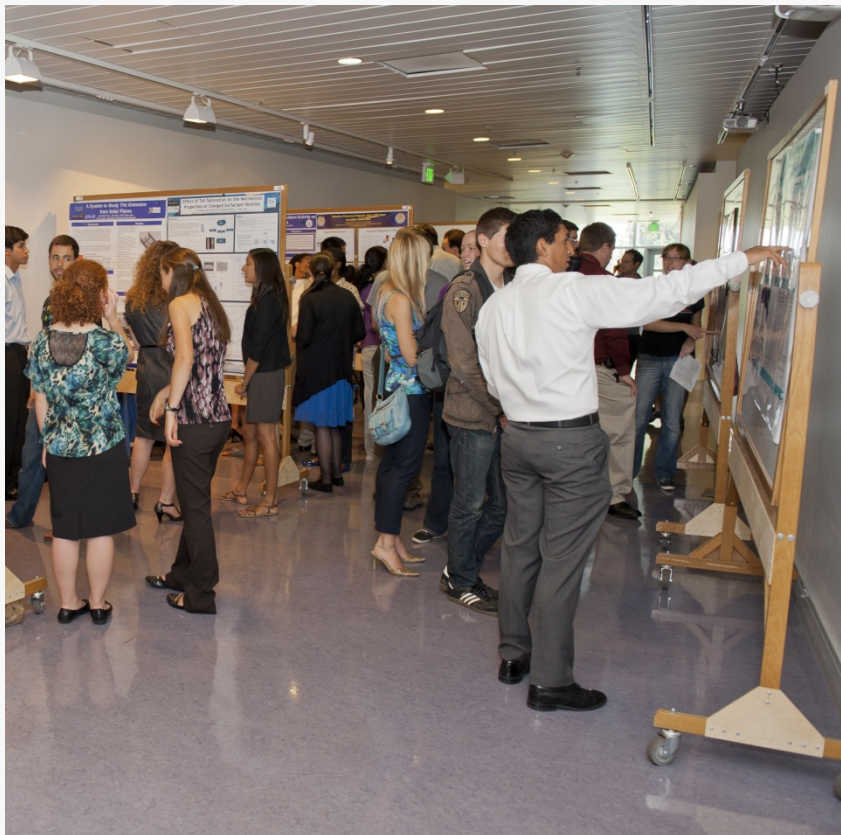
# Research Experiences for Undergraduates



- Exchange UCSB and UTEP undergraduates for summer REU programs (4 in each direction)
- Mentored research experiences in PREM research groups (Summer 2012: 15 interns in UCSB PREM labs)
- UTEP students included in RISE/CAMP internship cohort
- Participation in skills development and career development workshops and seminars

# UCSB-UTEP Undergraduate Colloquium

Connect UTEP and UCSB undergraduates to increase awareness of opportunities at partner institution



- Annual end-of-summer poster session
- Alternate between UCSB and UTEP site
- At UTEP – in connection with COURI Symposium

# Materials Science Ambassadors



- PREM graduate students assist with K-12 outreach activities at local schools – based on UTEP program, to be launched at UCSB
- It's a Material World - UCSB
- Build-a-Buckyball and Solar Car Workshops - UCSB

# Outreach Programs

## Materials Science Ambassadors

- Develop Relationship with Math/Science Teachers
- Service Learning
- Nexus - Research Shadowing Program

## ExciTES Summer Institute

- Summer Camp for 6th – 10th graders
- Modular Inquiry-based, Team-based Activities

## Materials Research Outreach Program

- Grad and postdoc poster session
- Meeting and engaging industrial partners

**ExciTES = Excellence in Technology, Engineering and Science**

# Evaluating the Impact of our Programs

## Metrics of success

- REU evaluation using URSSA instrument
- Participants continue on to graduate school in science and engineering
- Participants enroll in graduate school at partner site
- Undergraduates participate in conferences and publications
- Graduate students participate in K-12 outreach

