

# Advanced optoelectronic tools to interrogate solution-processed solar cells

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**EPSRC**

Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council

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Swansea University  
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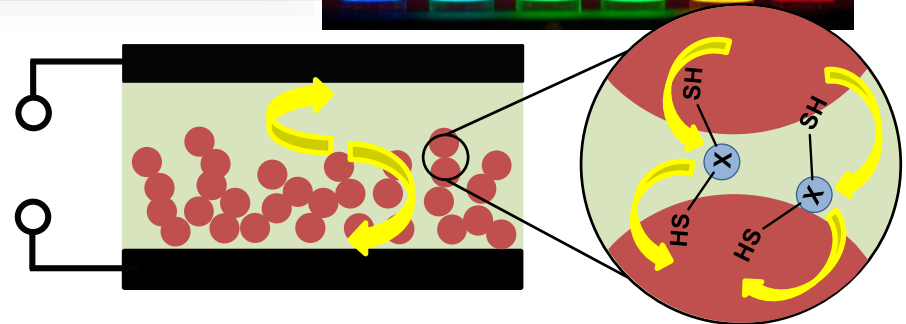
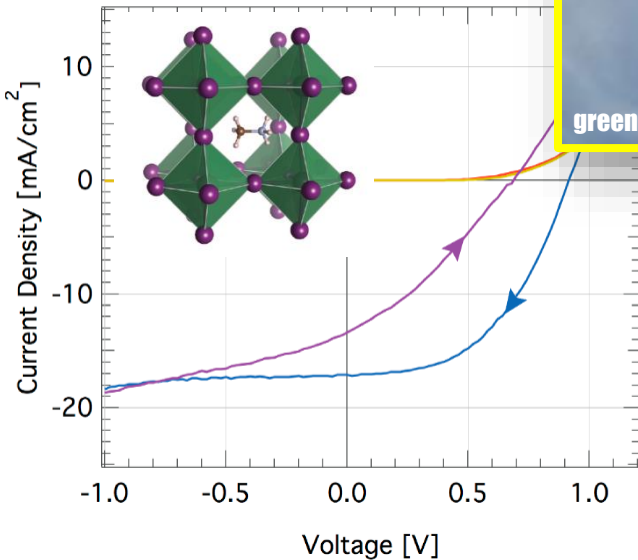
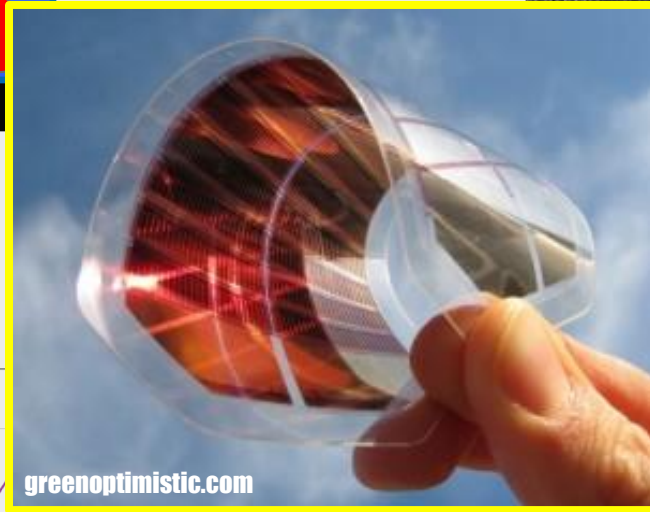
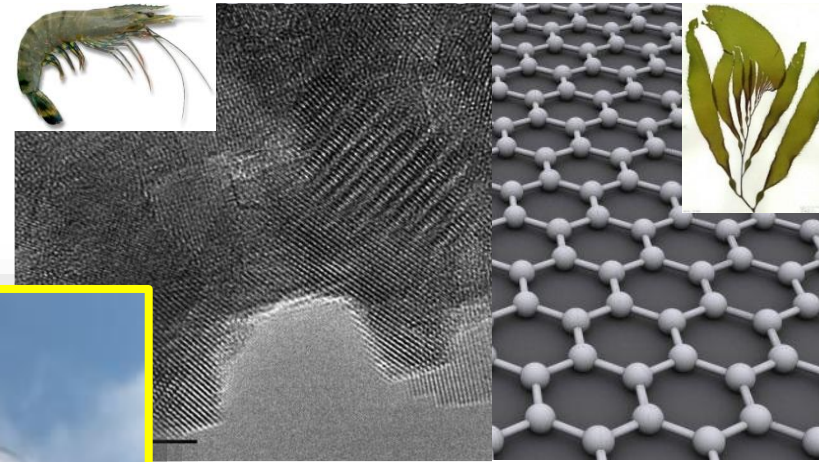
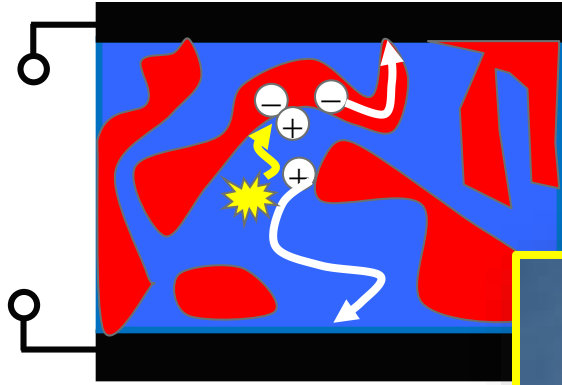


The Centre for Plastic Electronics

# Jenny Nelson's group

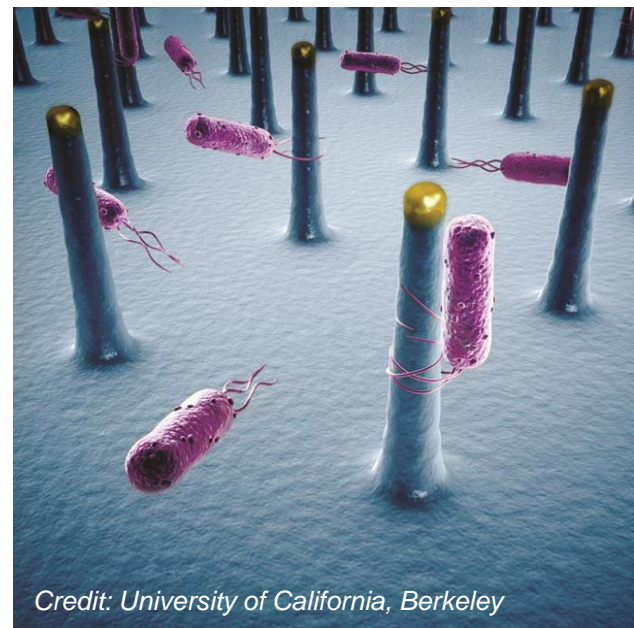
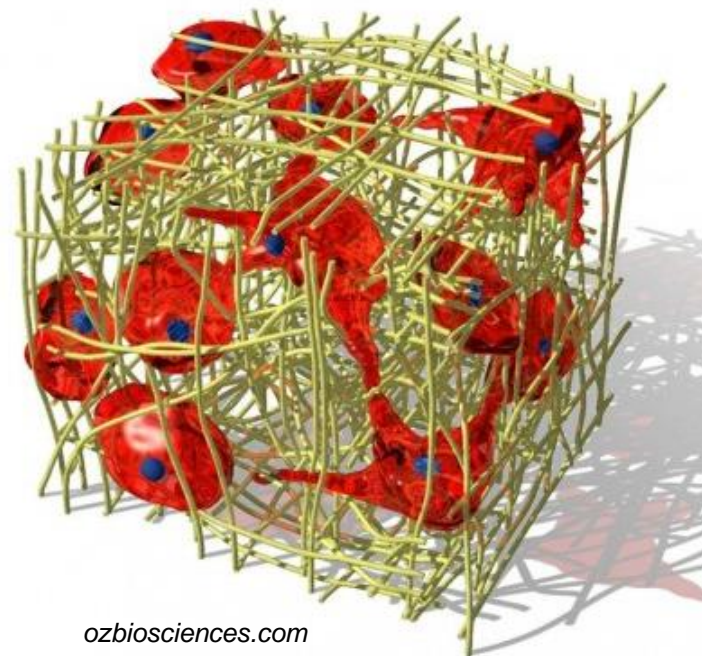


# New generation solar cells





# The next step: biological electronics



# Transients of the transient photovoltage spectroscopy (TrOTTr TPV)



Phil Calado



Piers Barnes



Brian O'Regan

Dan Bryant (ICL, Chemistry)

Xiao Li (ICL, Chemistry)

Jenny Nelson (ICL, Physics)

James Durrant (ICL,  
Chemistry)

Matt Carnie (Swansea,  
Specific)

Joel Troughton (Swansea,  
Specific)

# Hysteresis in perovskite solar cells

THE JOURNAL OF  
PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY  
*Letters*

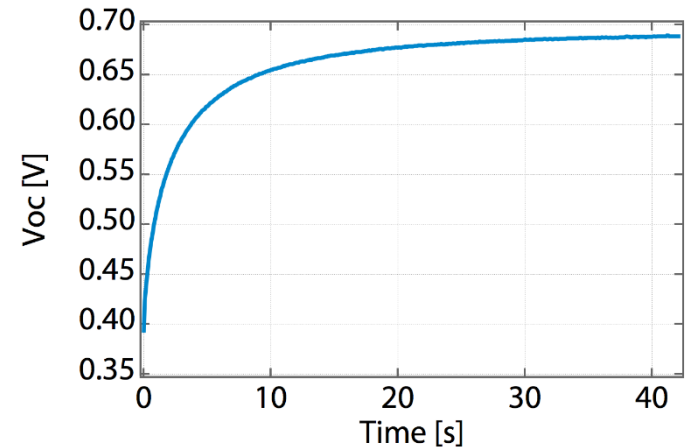
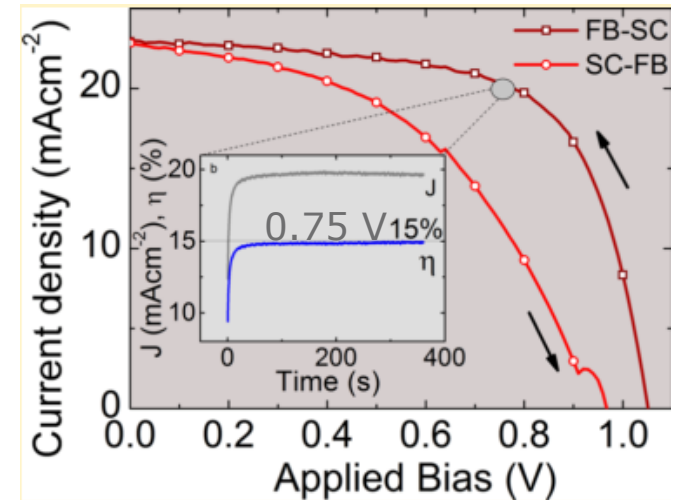
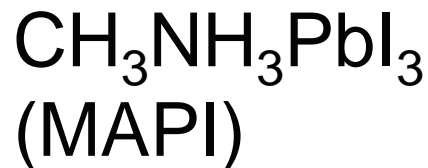
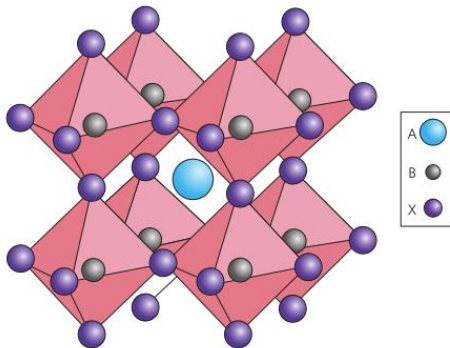
Letter

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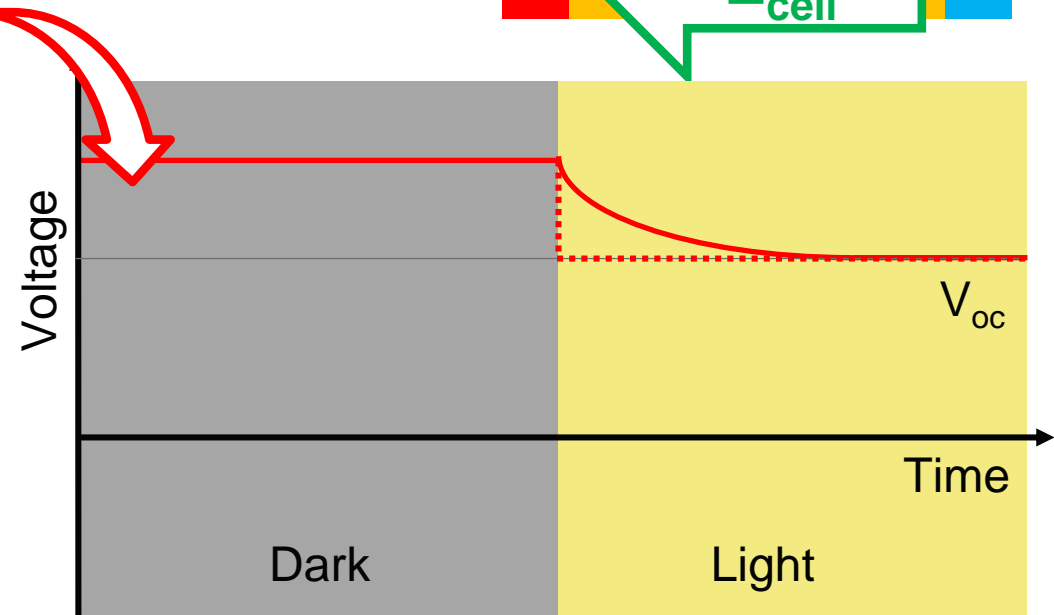
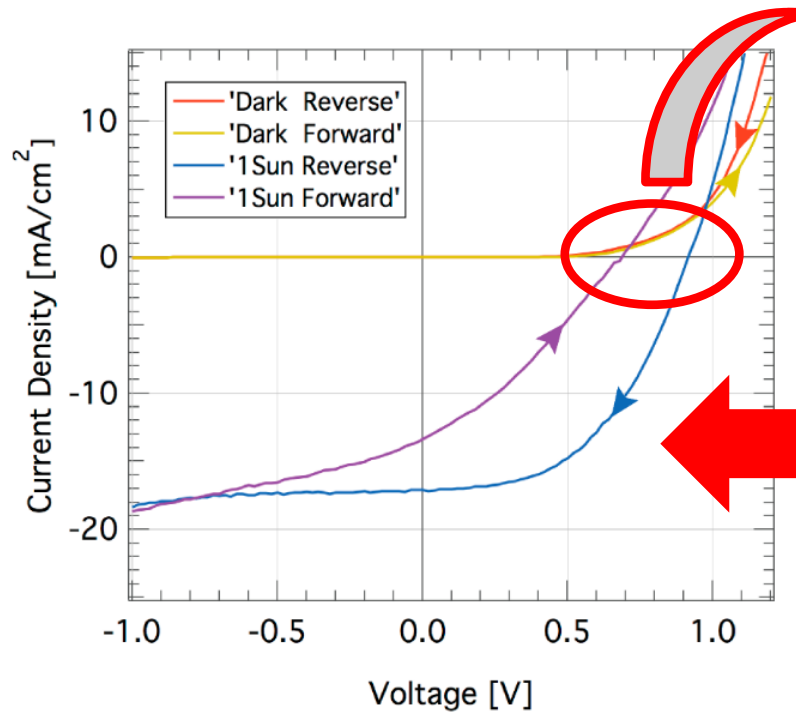
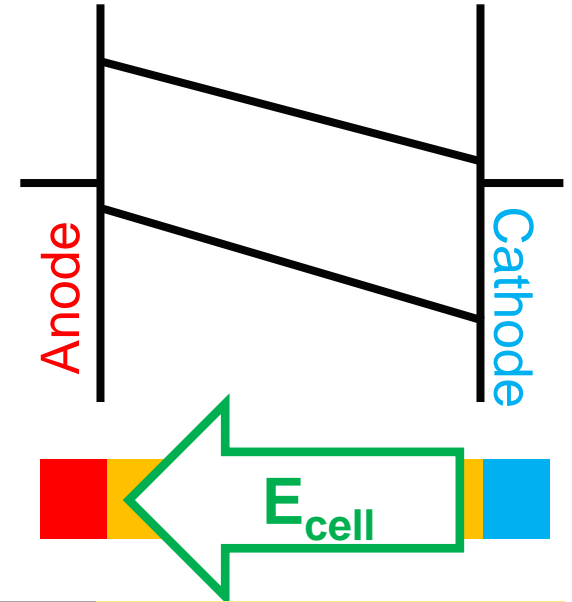
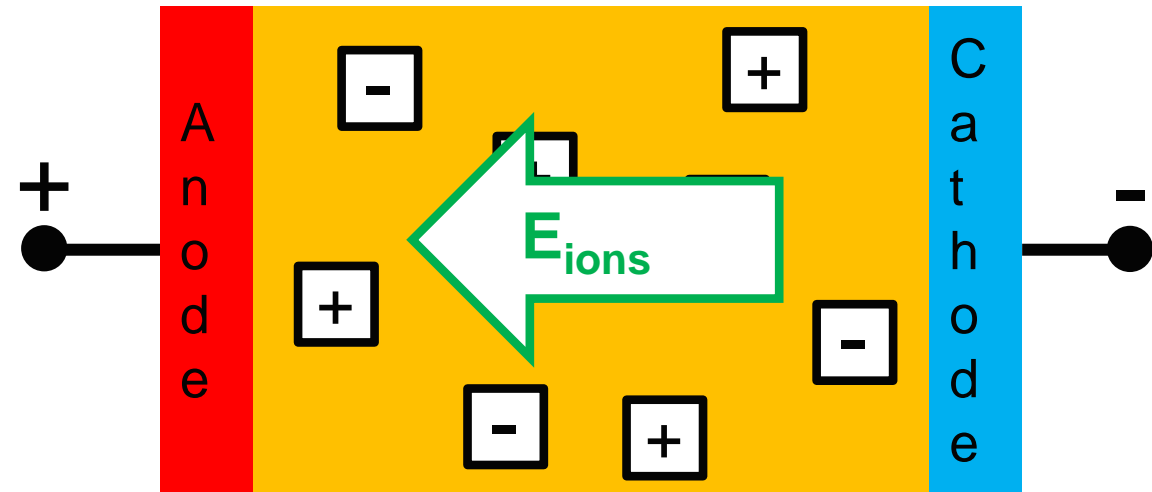
## Anomalous Hysteresis in Perovskite Solar Cells

Henry J. Snaith,\* Antonio Abate, James M. Ball, Giles E. Eperon, Tomas Leijtens, Nakita K. Noel, Samuel D. Stranks, Jacob Tse-Wei Wang, Konrad Wojciechowski, and Wei Zhang

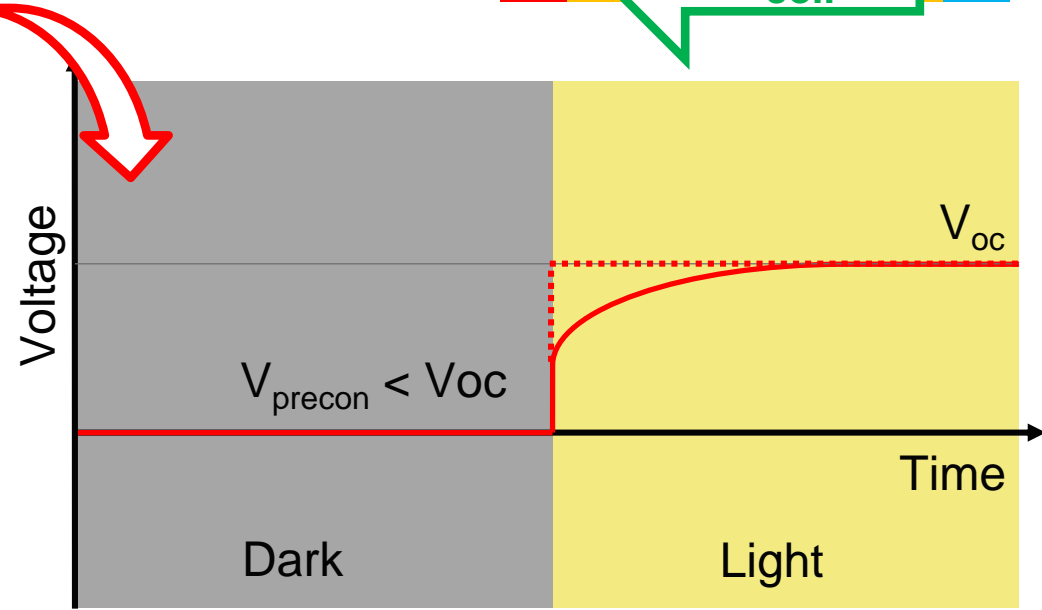
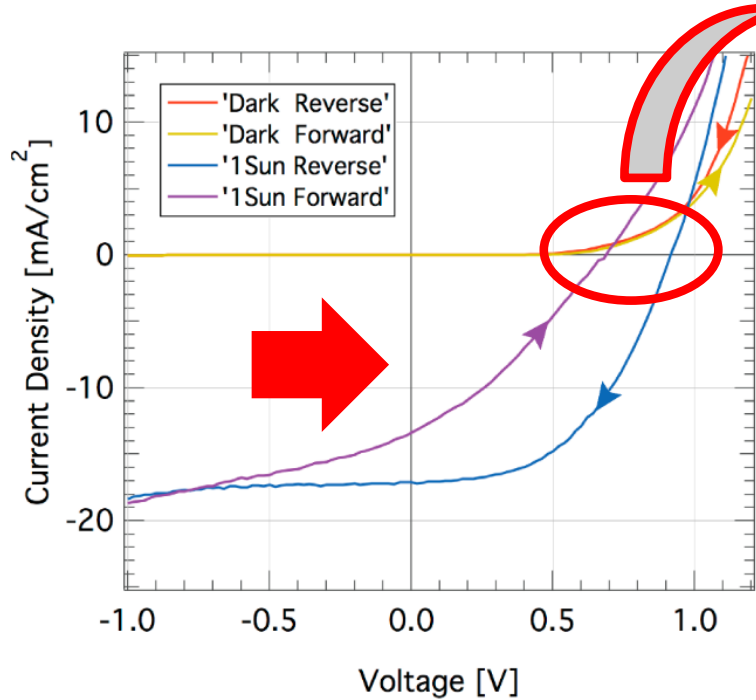
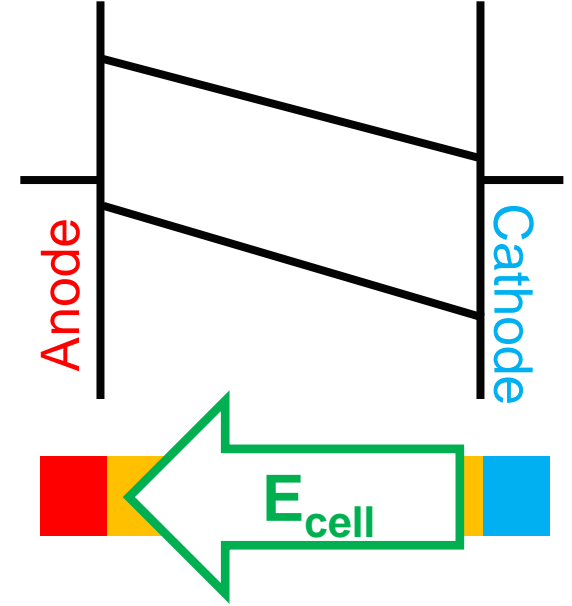
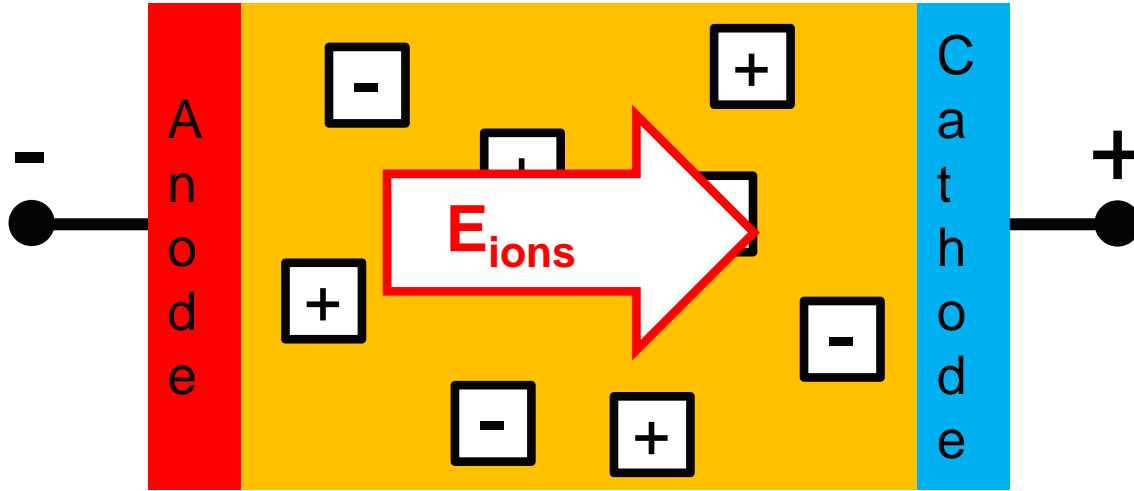
- Current-Voltage scans exhibit hysteresis between forward and reverse scans
- Short circuit current and open circuit voltage exhibits relaxation on the timescale of seconds



# Ion migration

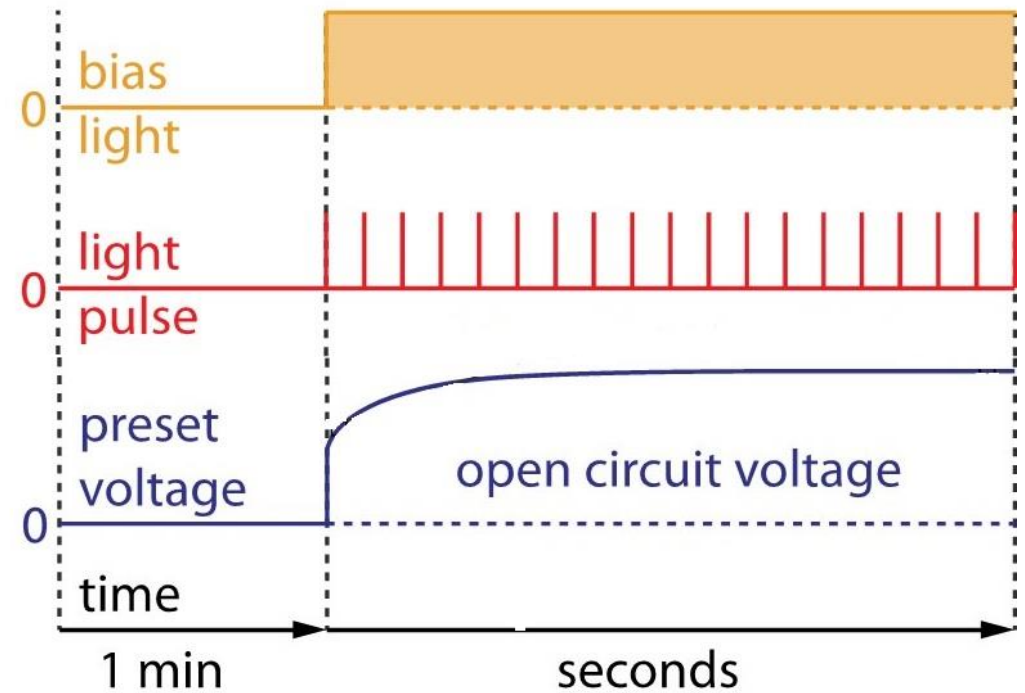
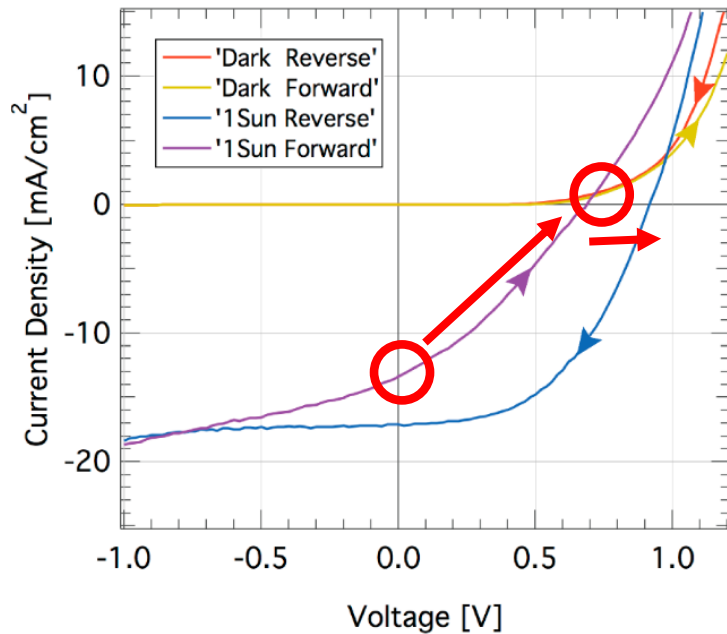
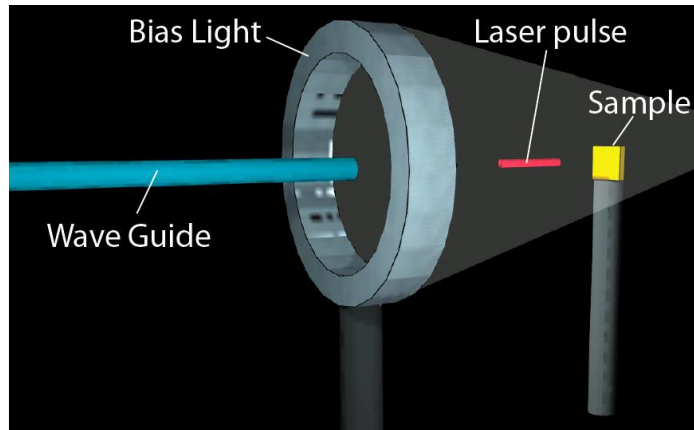


# Ion migration

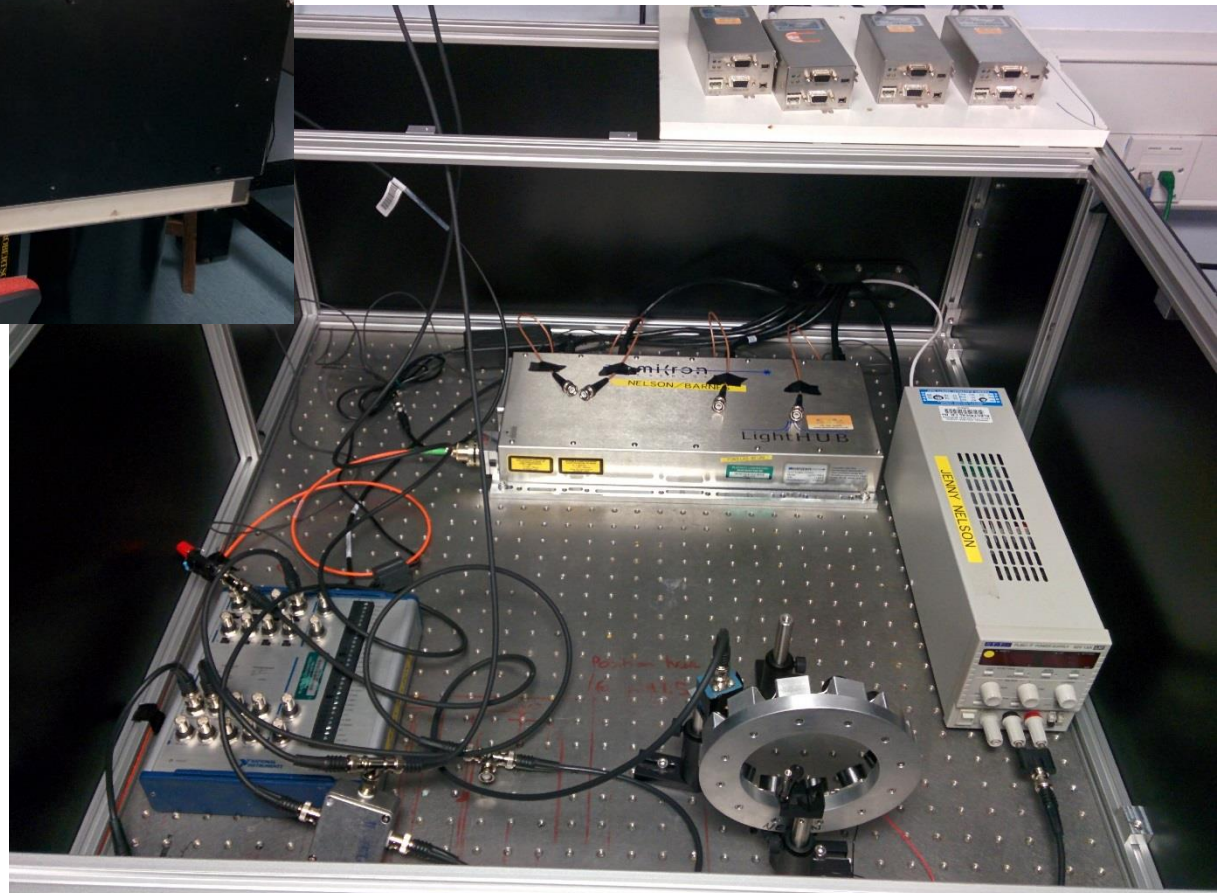




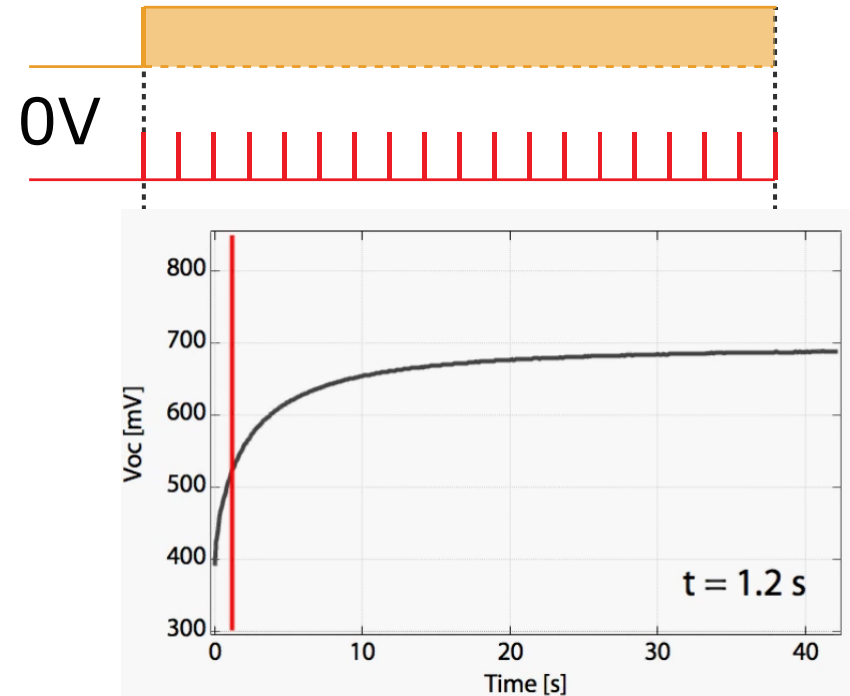
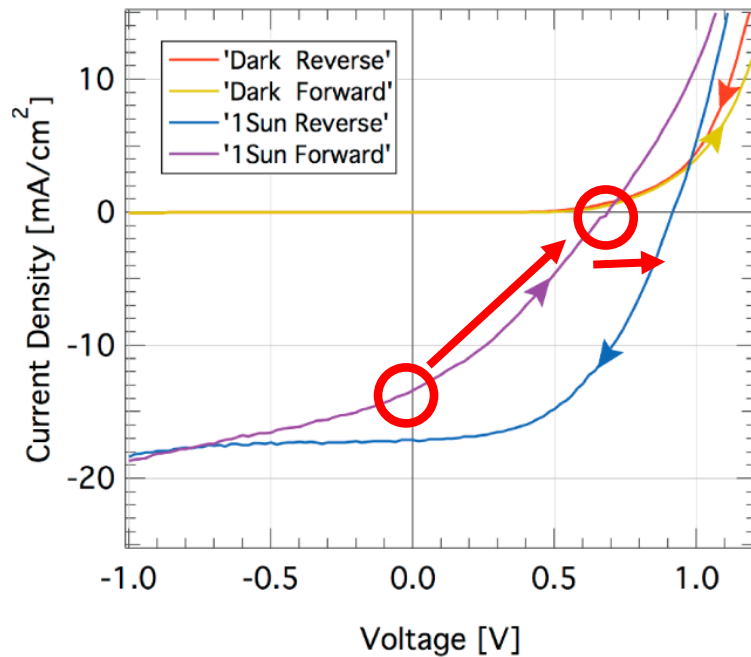
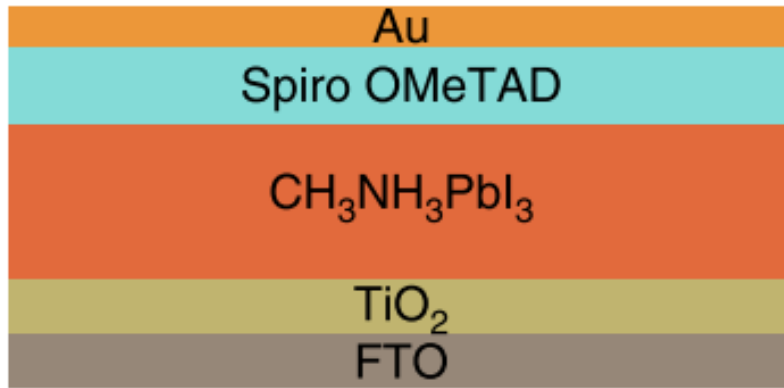
# Transients of the transient (TrOTTr) photovoltage measurements



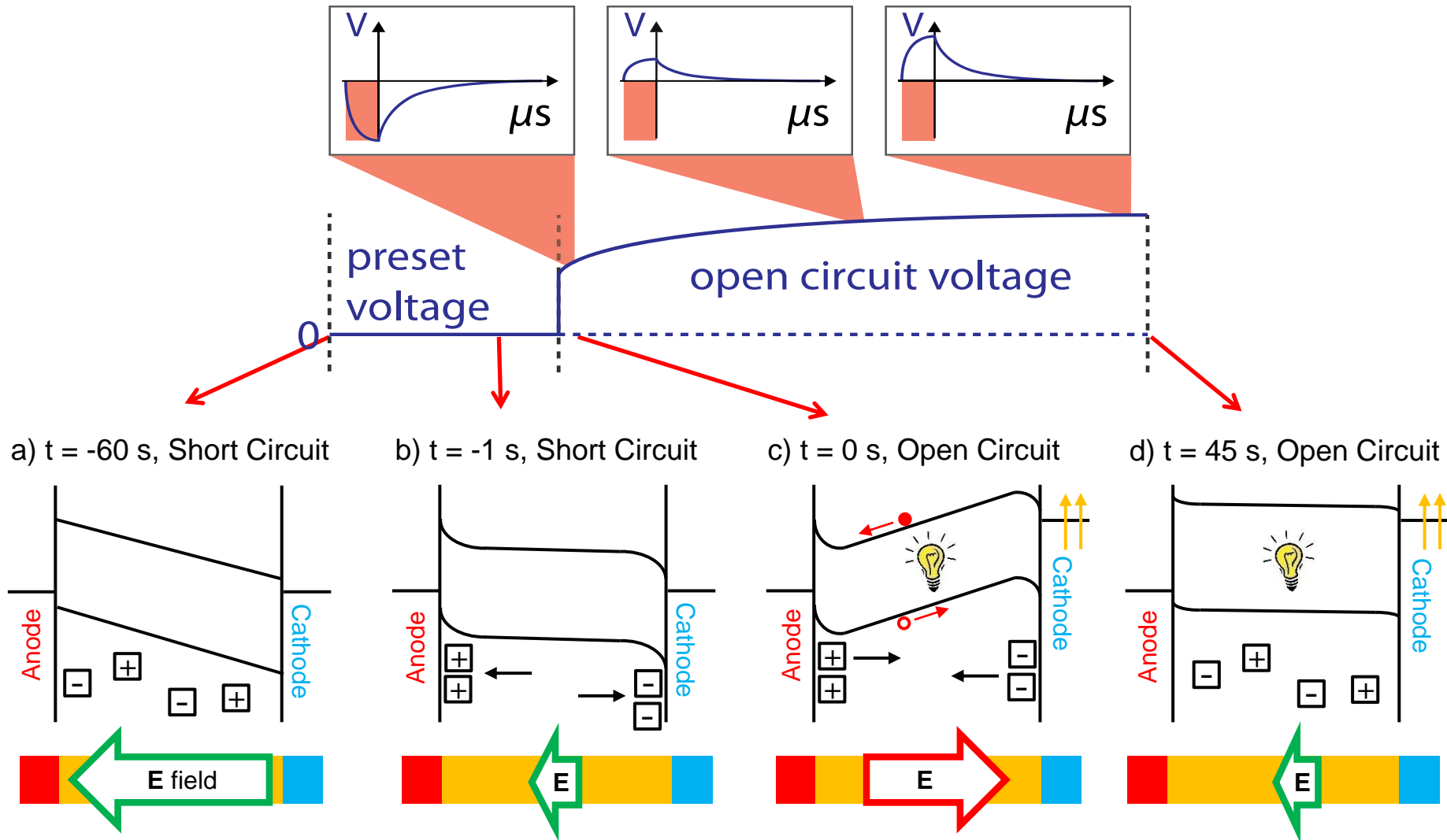
# The TrOTTr rig



# TiO<sub>2</sub> bottom cathode architecture



# Ionic charge accumulation





# Hysteresis-free devices!

Journal of  
Materials Chemistry A



PAPER

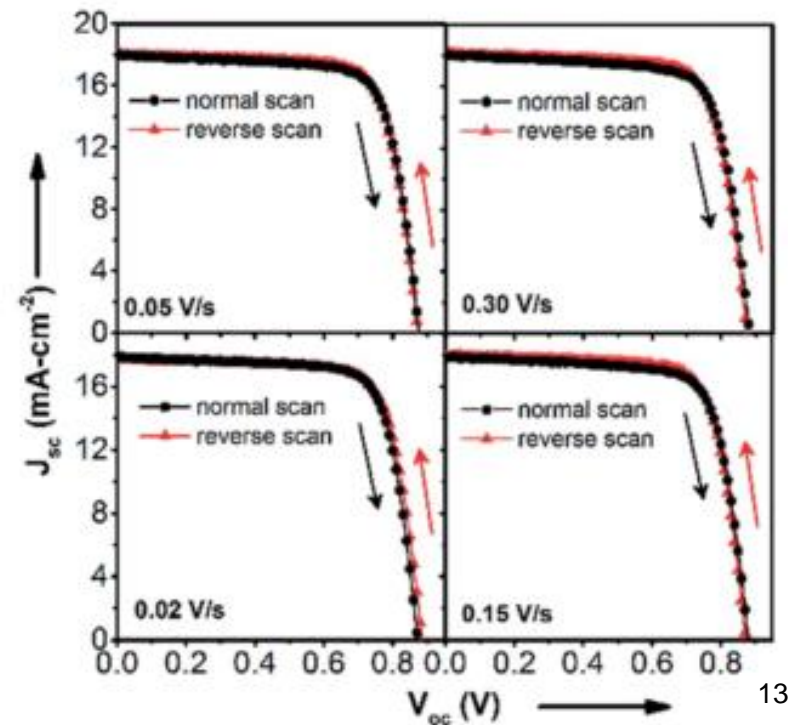
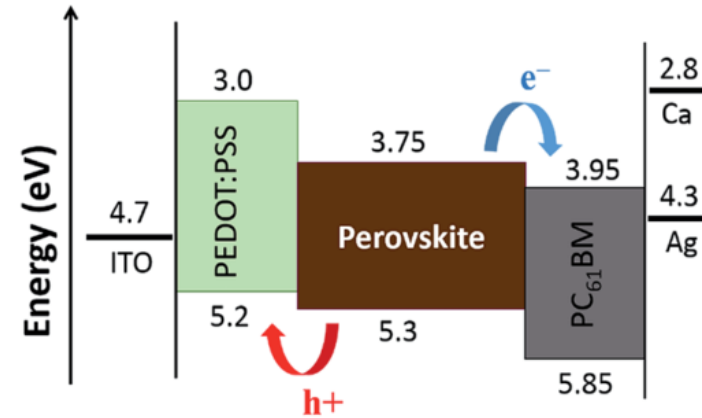
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## Hysteresis-free and highly stable perovskite solar cells produced *via* a chlorine-mediated interdiffusion method†

Cite this: *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2015, 3, 12081

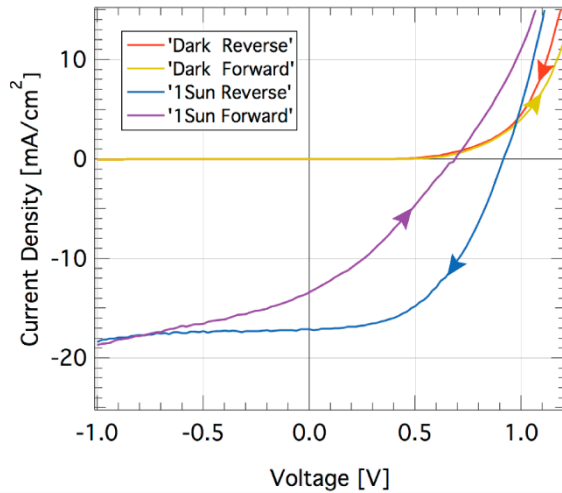
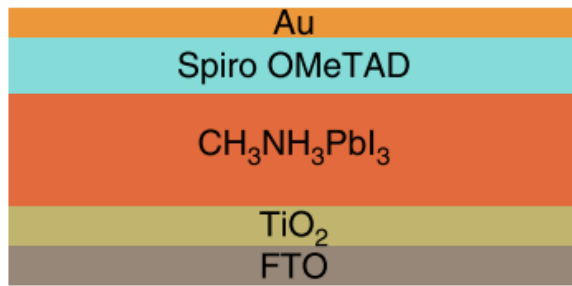
Neeti Tripathi,<sup>a</sup> Masatoshi Yanagida,<sup>ab</sup> Yasuhiro Shirai,<sup>\*ab</sup> Takuya Masuda,<sup>a</sup> Liyuan Han<sup>d</sup> and Kenjiro Miyano<sup>a</sup>

- Changing contact materials appears to alter  $J$ - $V$  hysteresis

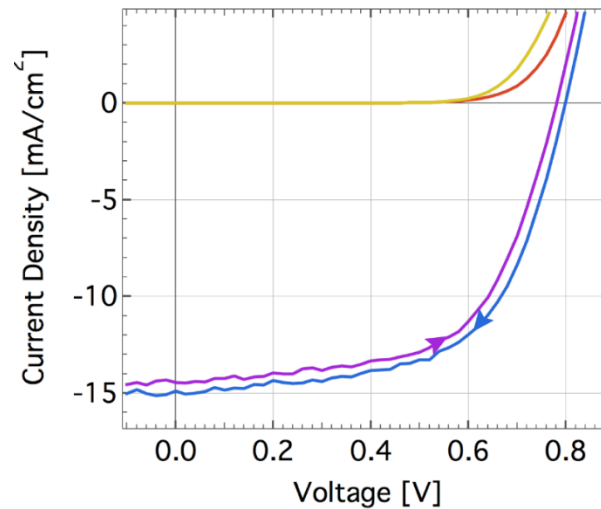
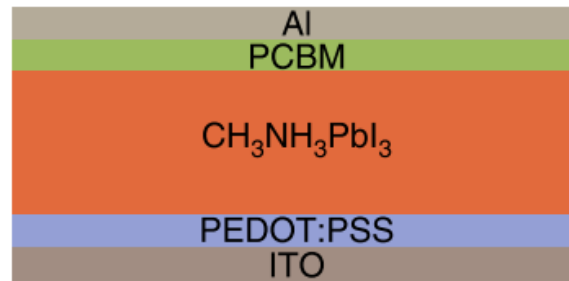


# Hysteresis depends on the contact materials

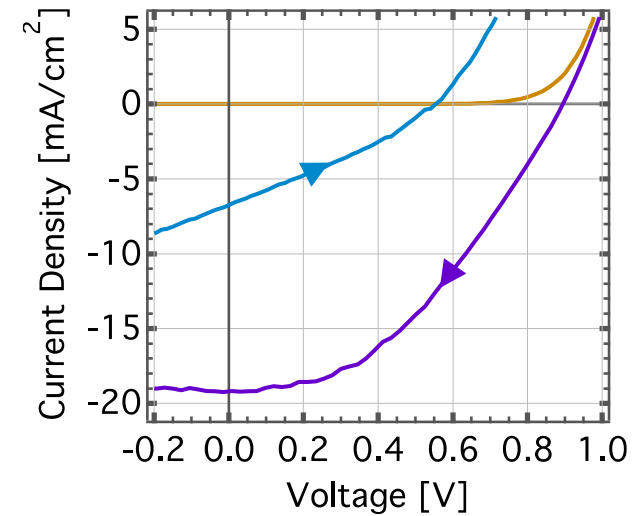
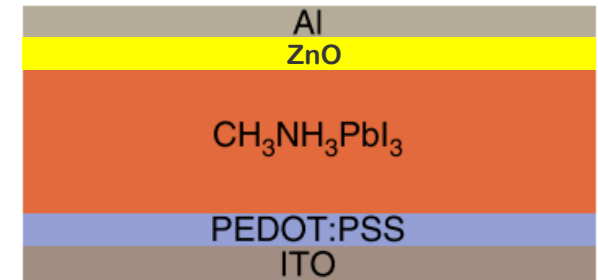
Bottom cathode – TiO<sub>2</sub>



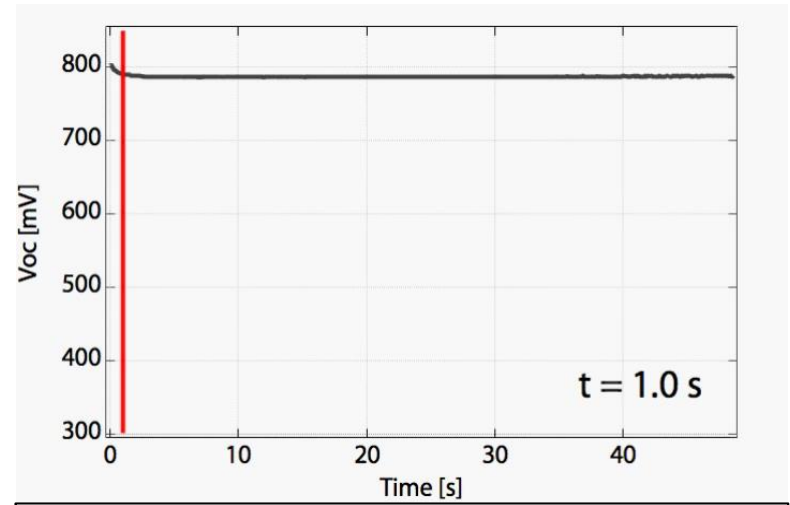
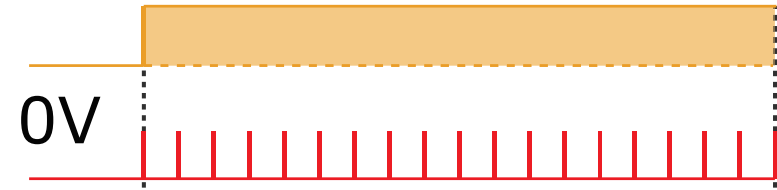
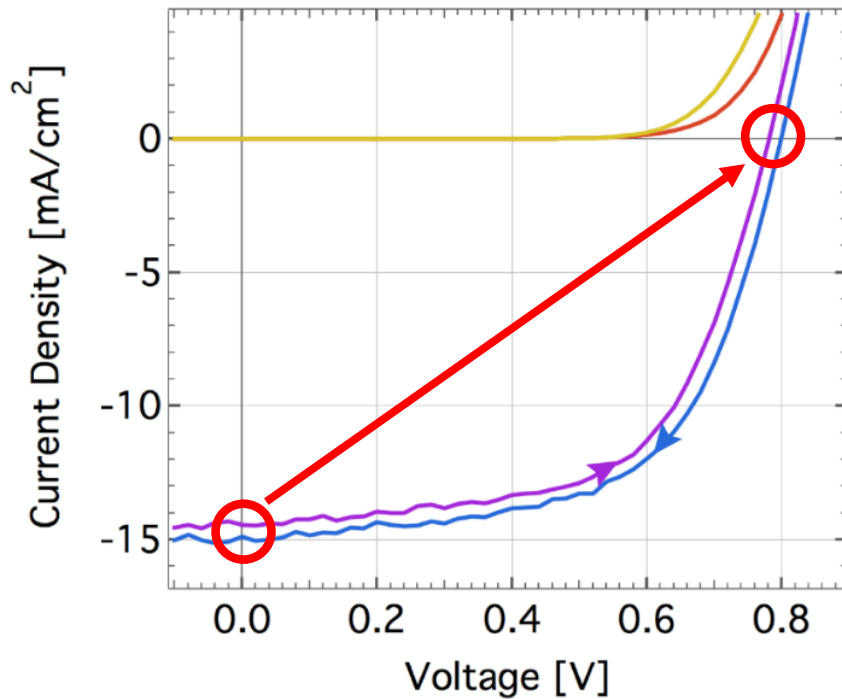
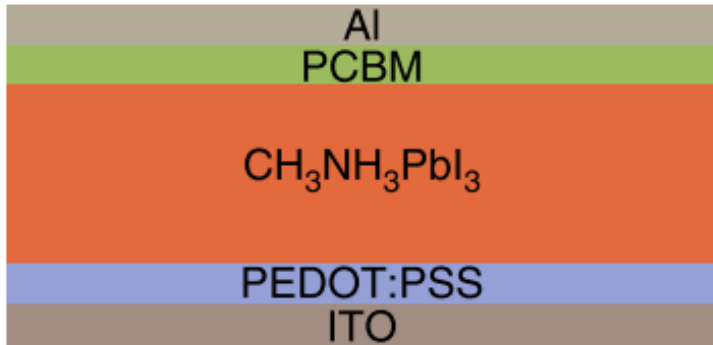
Top cathode - PCBM



Top cathode - ZnO

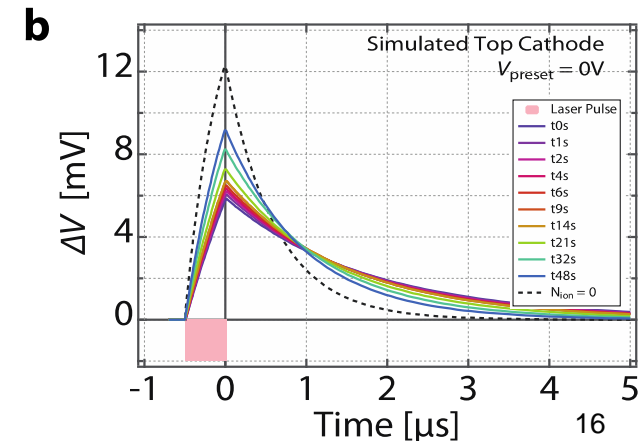
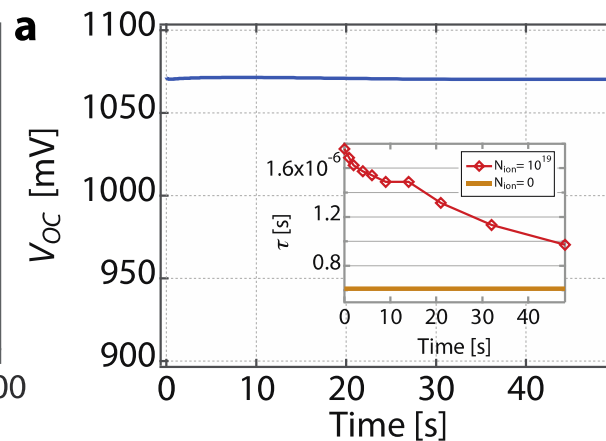
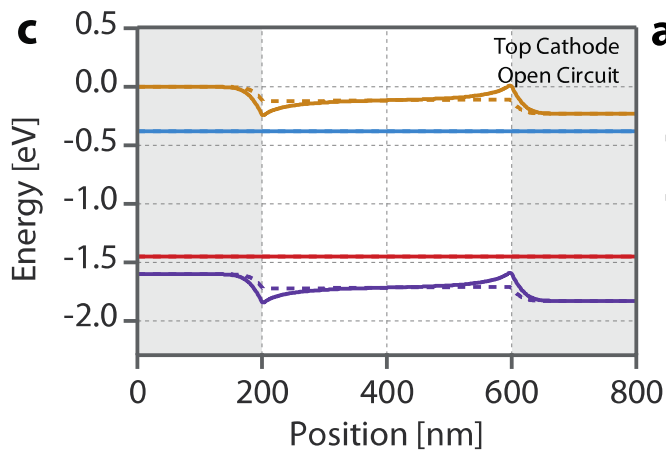
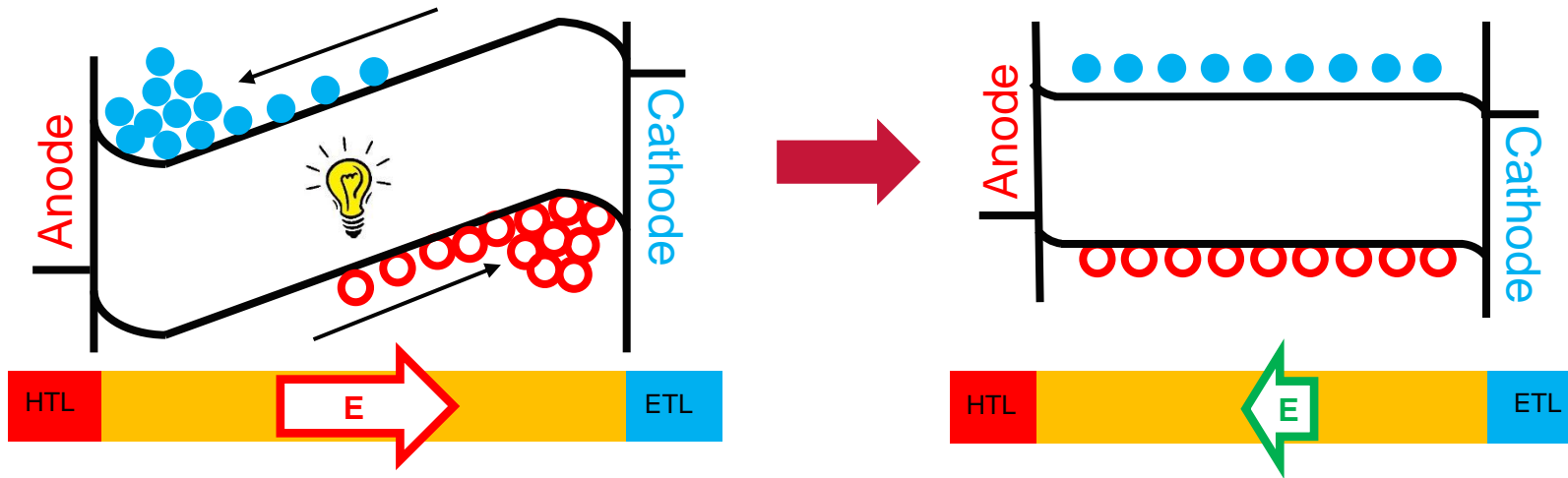


# PCBM top cathode architecture



# The role of interfacial recombination

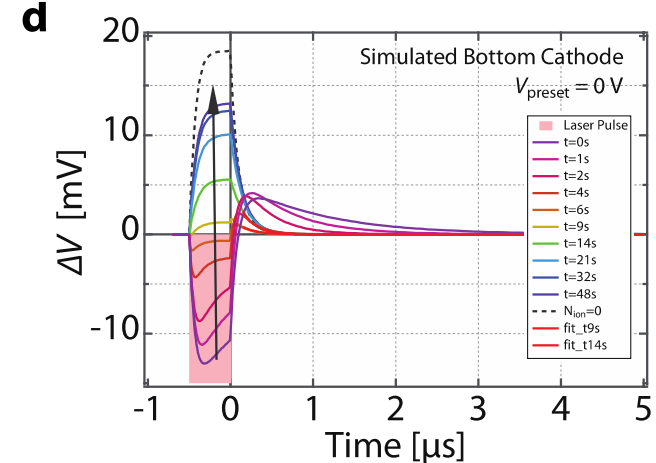
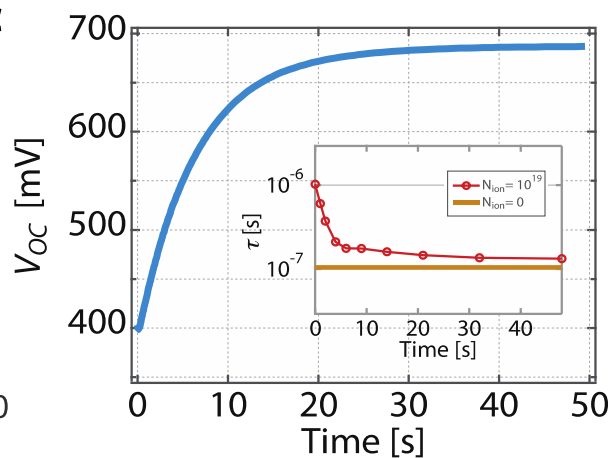
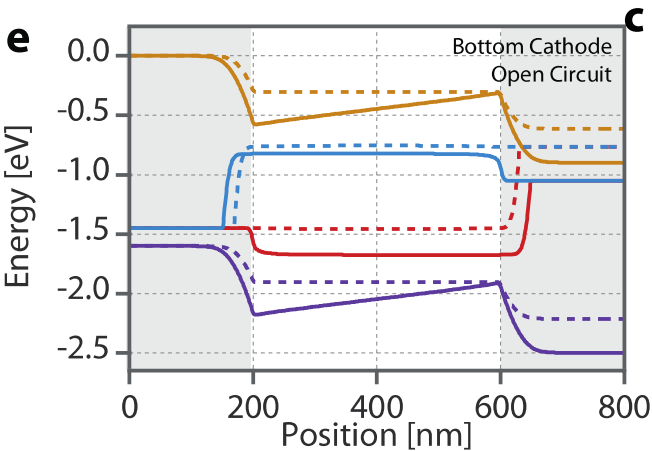
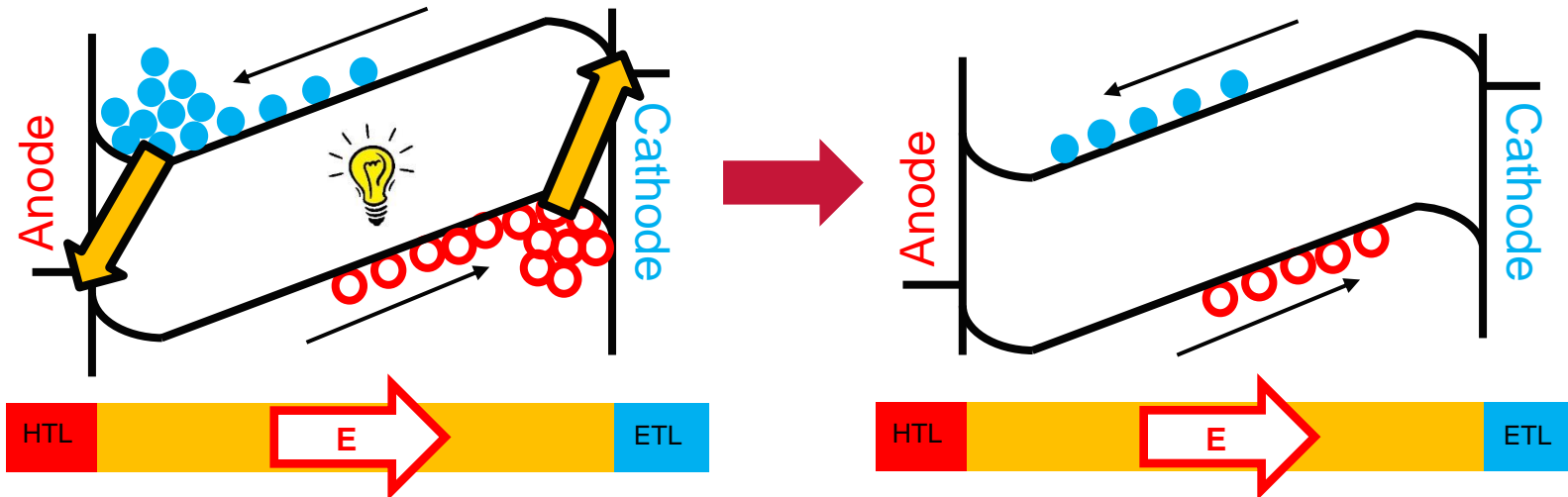
- Without surface recombination, photogenerated charge carriers flood device and screen ionic charge



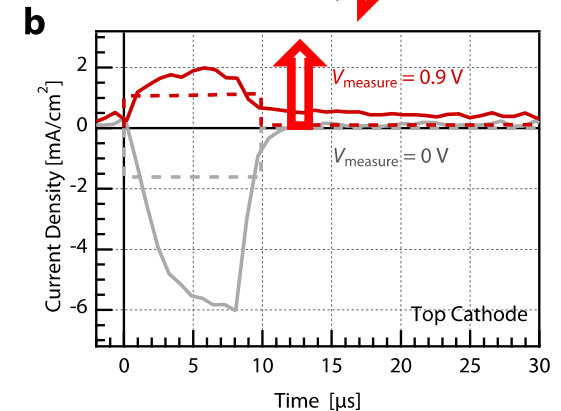
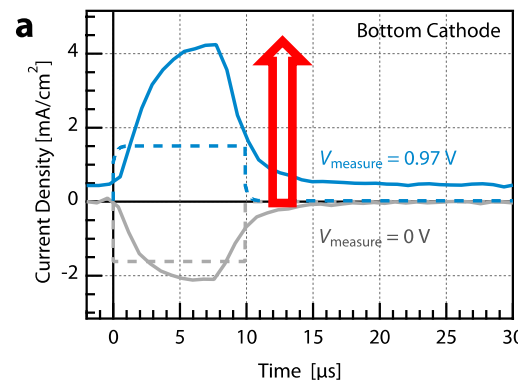
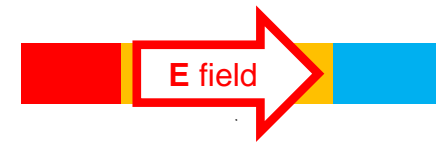
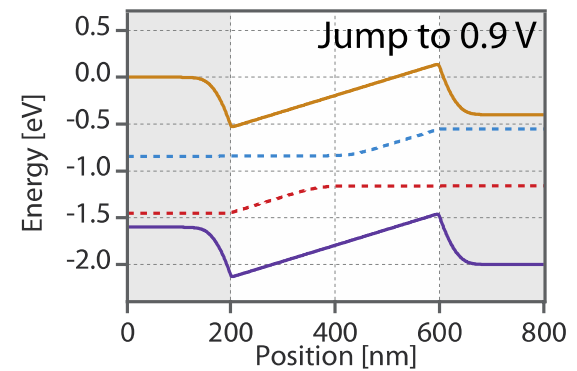
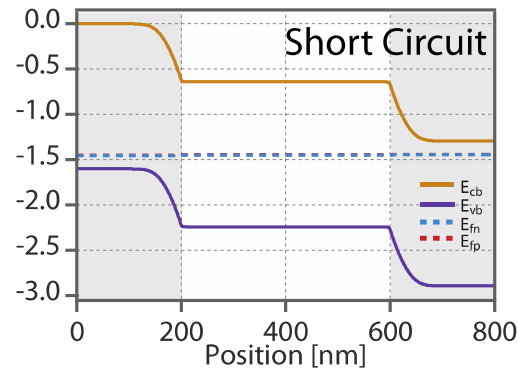
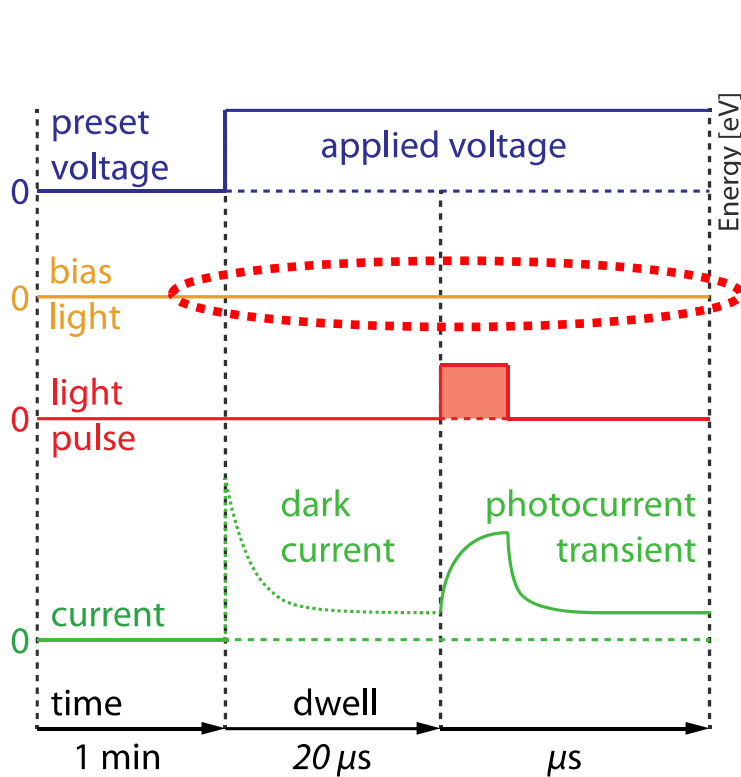


# The role of interfacial recombination

- With surface recombination, photo-carrier concentrations are low- ionic charge dominates E-field distribution



# Jump-to-voltage photocurrent current transient

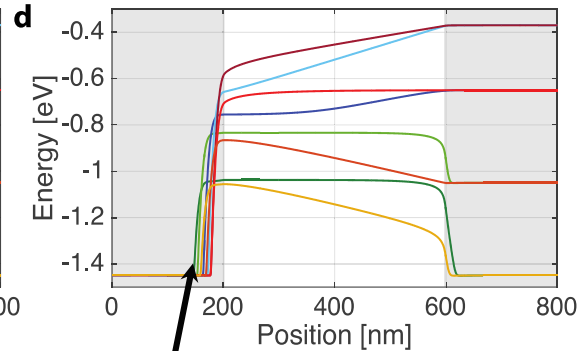
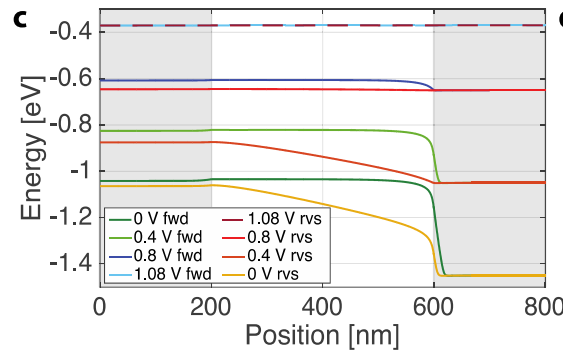
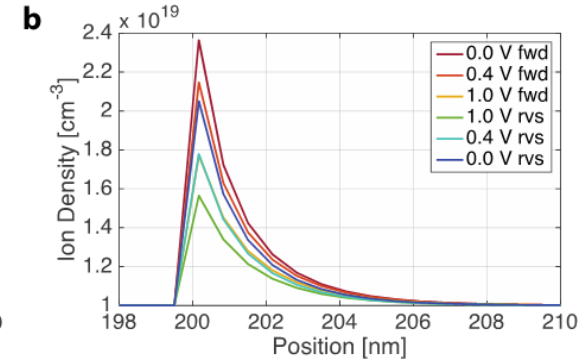
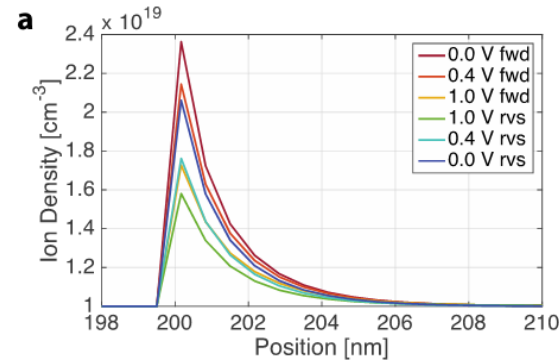


No bias light  $\rightarrow$  few background carriers

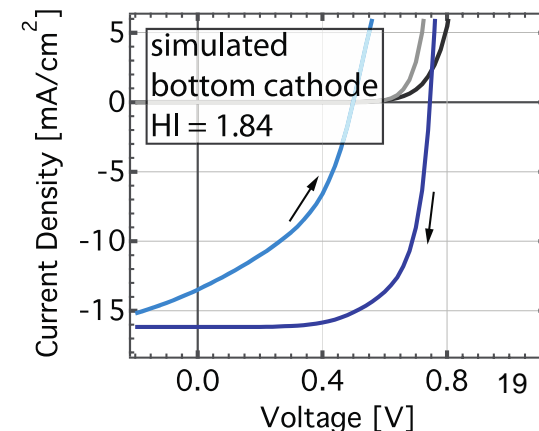
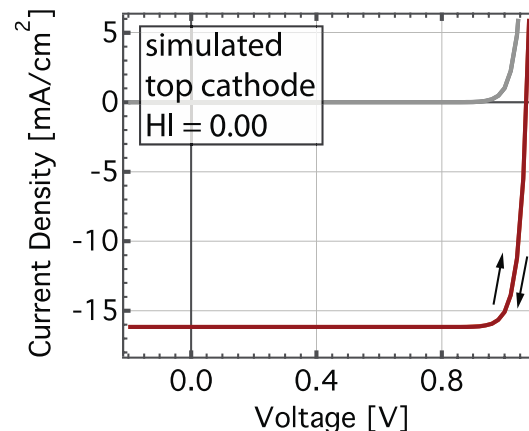
**Positive** transient photocurrent observed in both architectures indicating reverse field

# Conclusions

- Mobile ions are present in the device regardless of hysteresis.
- Surface recombination determines whether a reverse electric field at  $V_{oc}$  is detectable or not. It also affects the extraction efficiency at  $0 < V < V_{oc}$ .
- Hysteresis can be reproduced in JV curves by switching ON or OFF the surface recombination, while allowing for ion migration.



Recombination centres



# How Does the Photo-oxidation of Fullerenes Affect the Behaviour of OPV Devices?



Jason Röhr



Beth Rice



Alexandre  
De Castro  
Maciel



Jenny Nelson

James R. Durrant (Imperial, Chemistry)

Jiaying Wu (Imperial, Chemistry)

Wing C. Tsoi (Swansea)

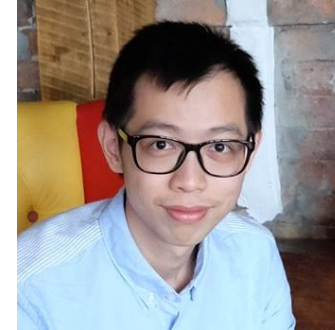
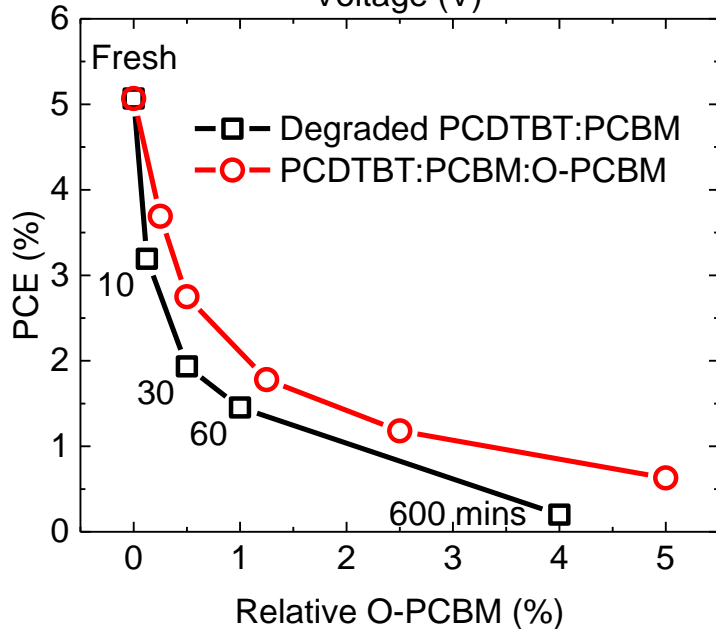
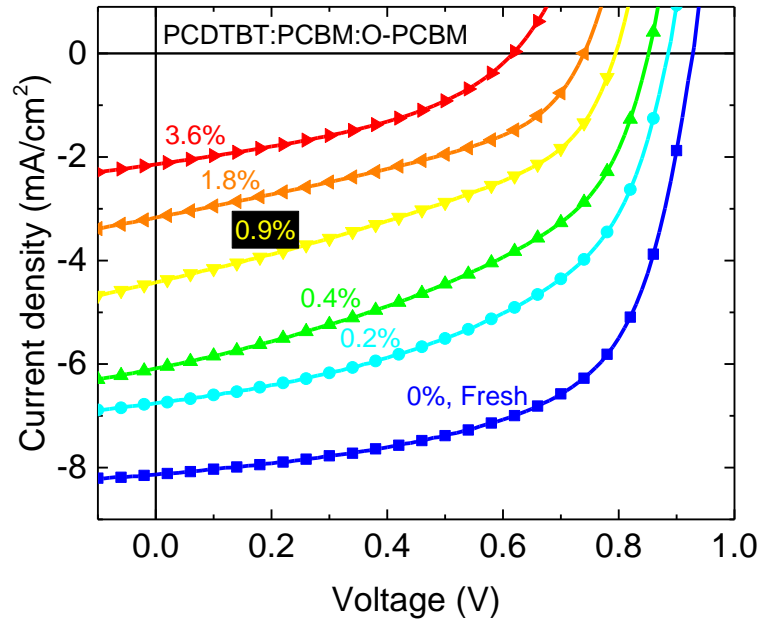
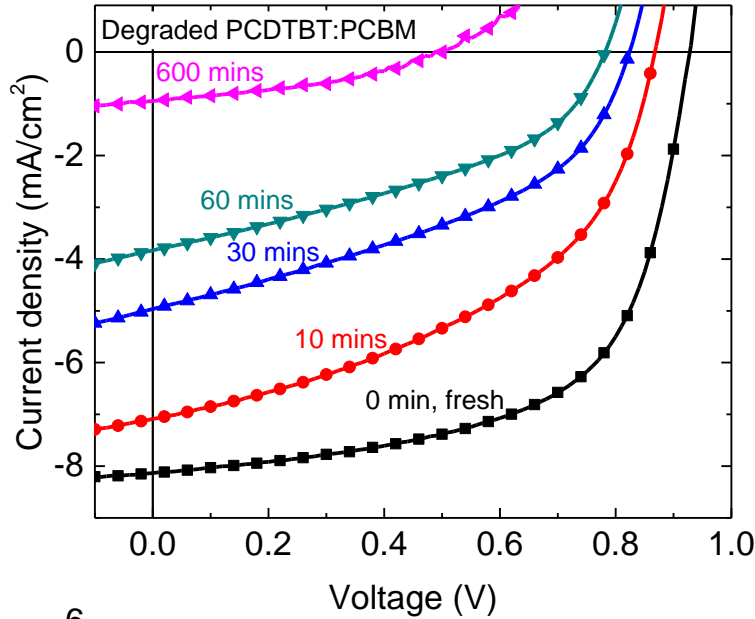
Zhe Li (Swansea)

Harrison K. H. Lee (Swansea)

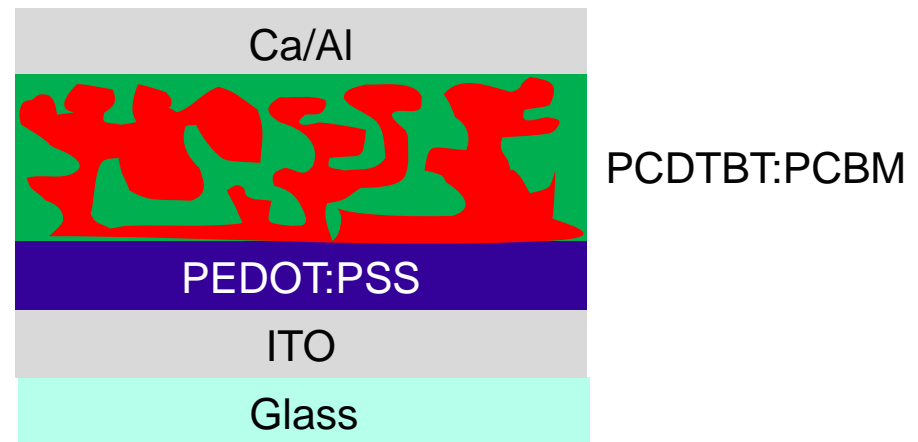
Emily Speller (Swansea)



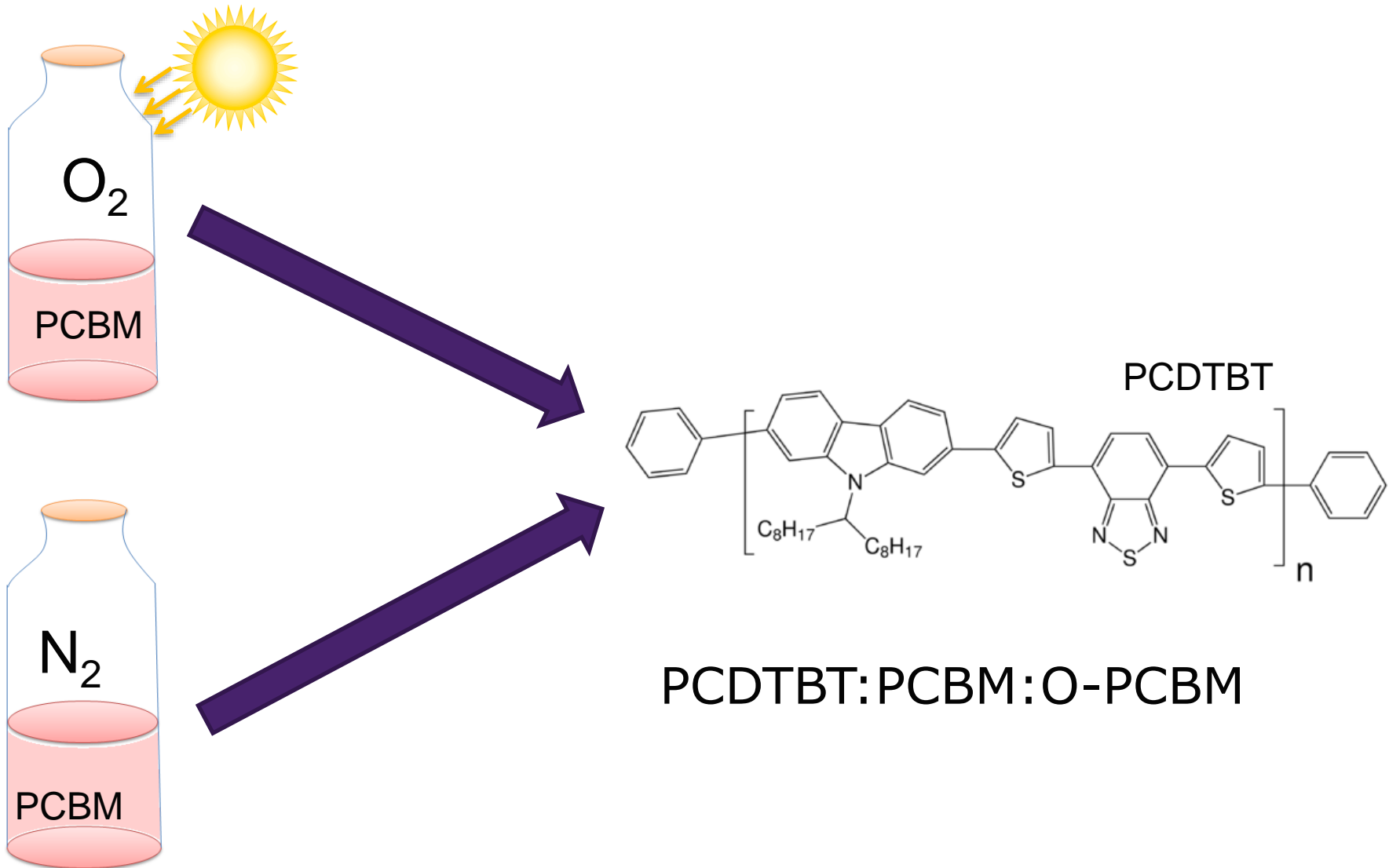
# Photo-oxidation of fullerene



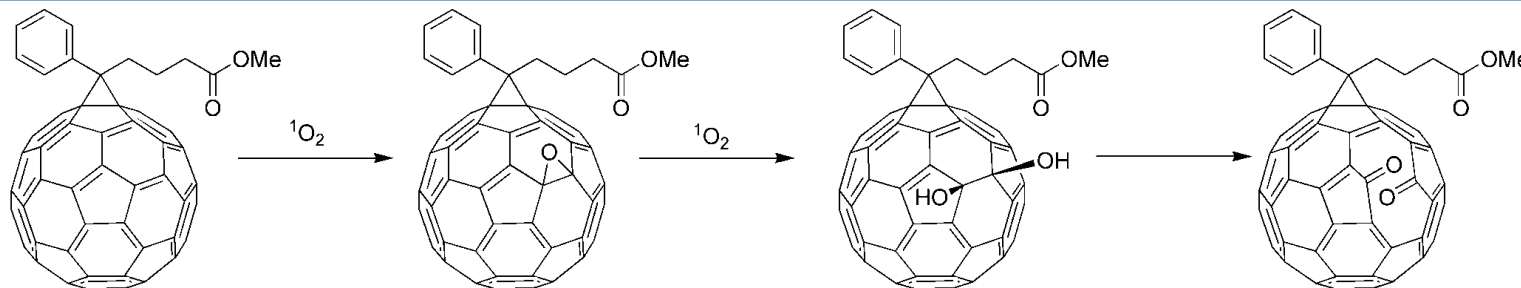
Harrison K. H. Lee



# Photo-oxidation of PCBM

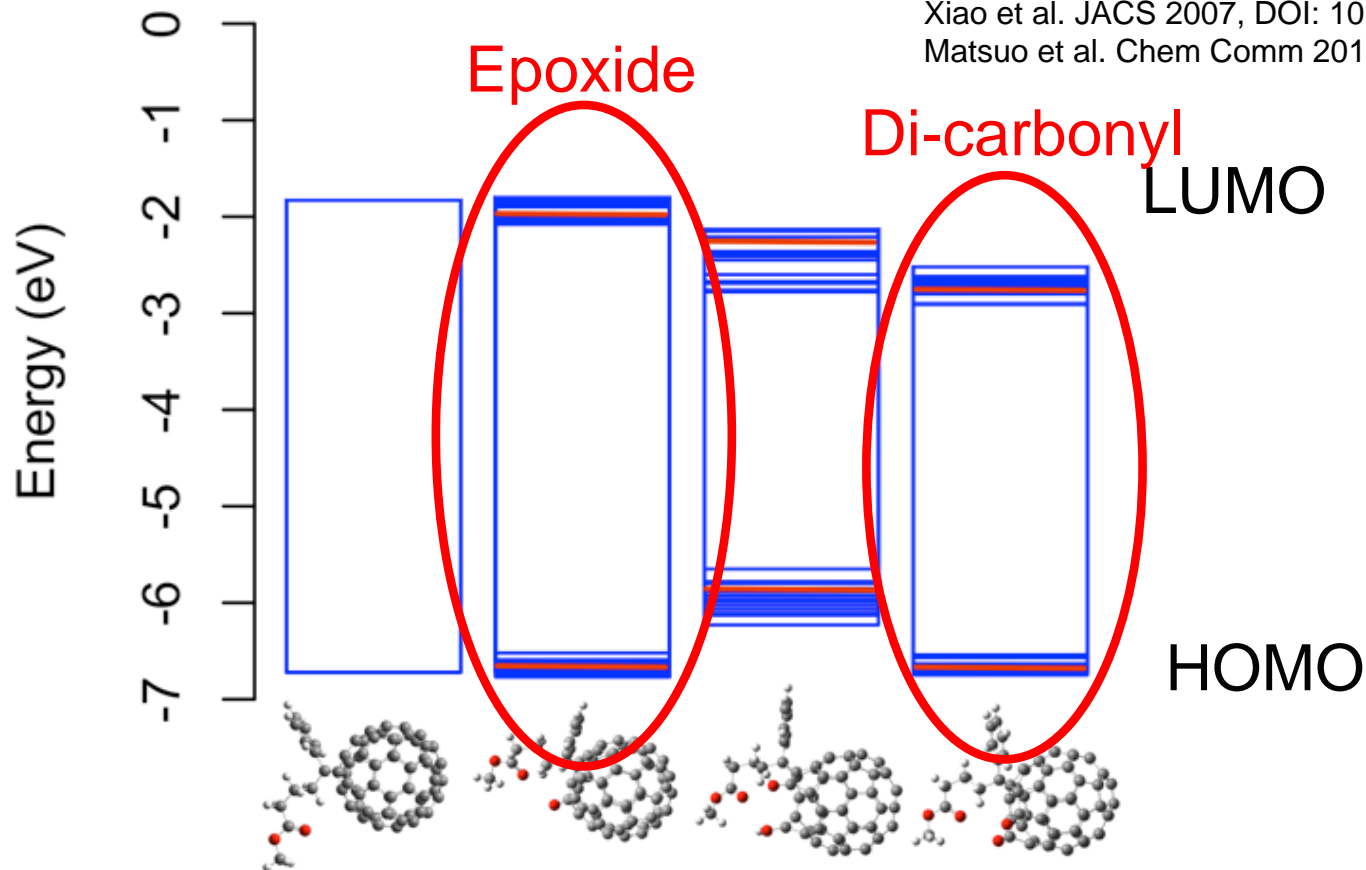


# Photo-oxidation products



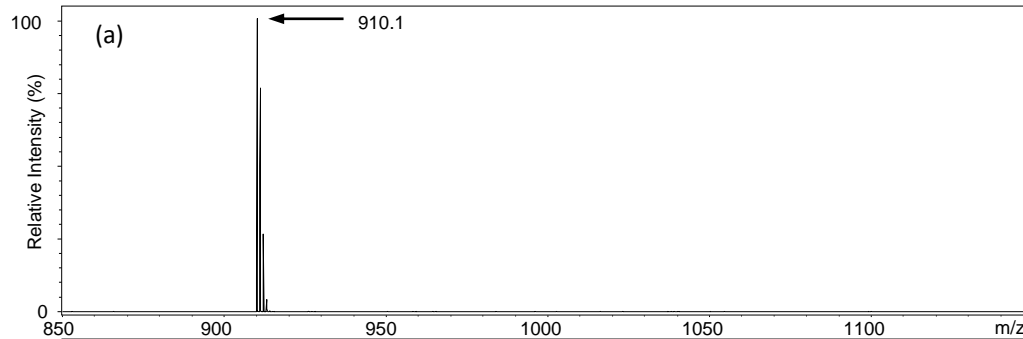
Xiao et al. JACS 2007, DOI: 10.1021/ja0763798

Matsuo et al. Chem Comm 2012, DOI: 10.1039/c2cc30262d



Beth Rice

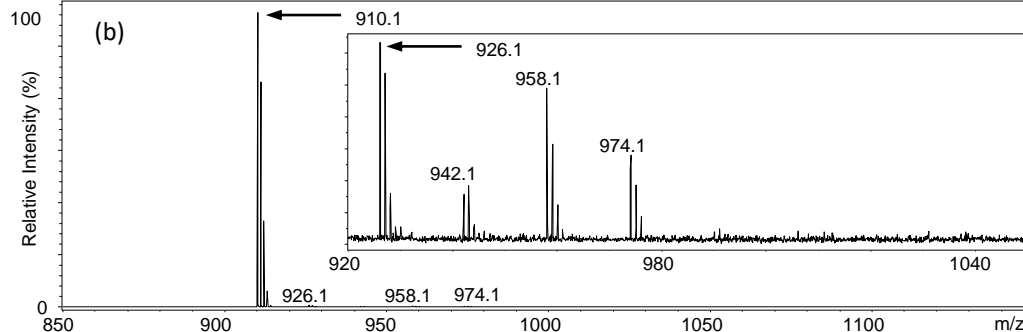
# Mass spectrometry



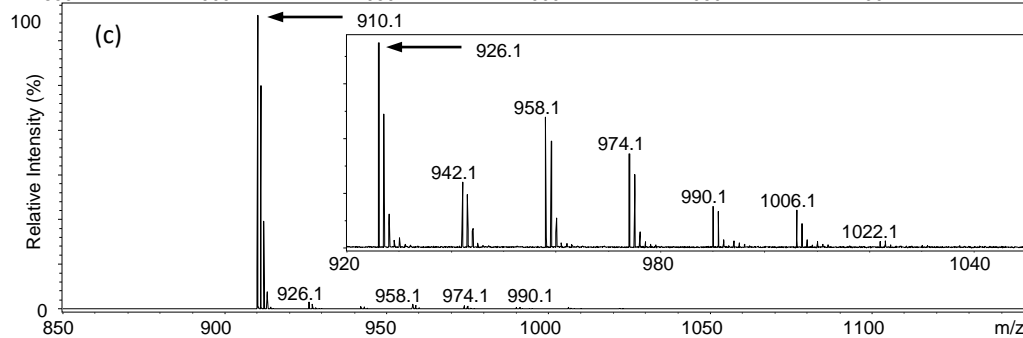
Fresh PCBM



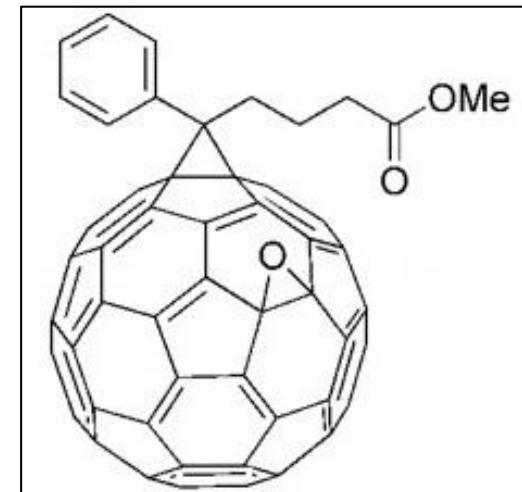
**Mark F. Wyatt**



Degraded  
PCBM in blend  
with PCDTBT

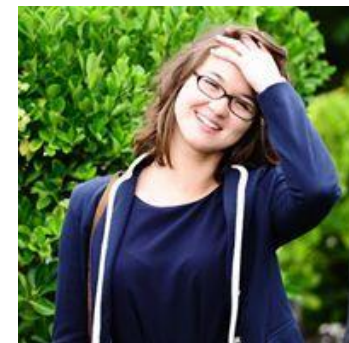
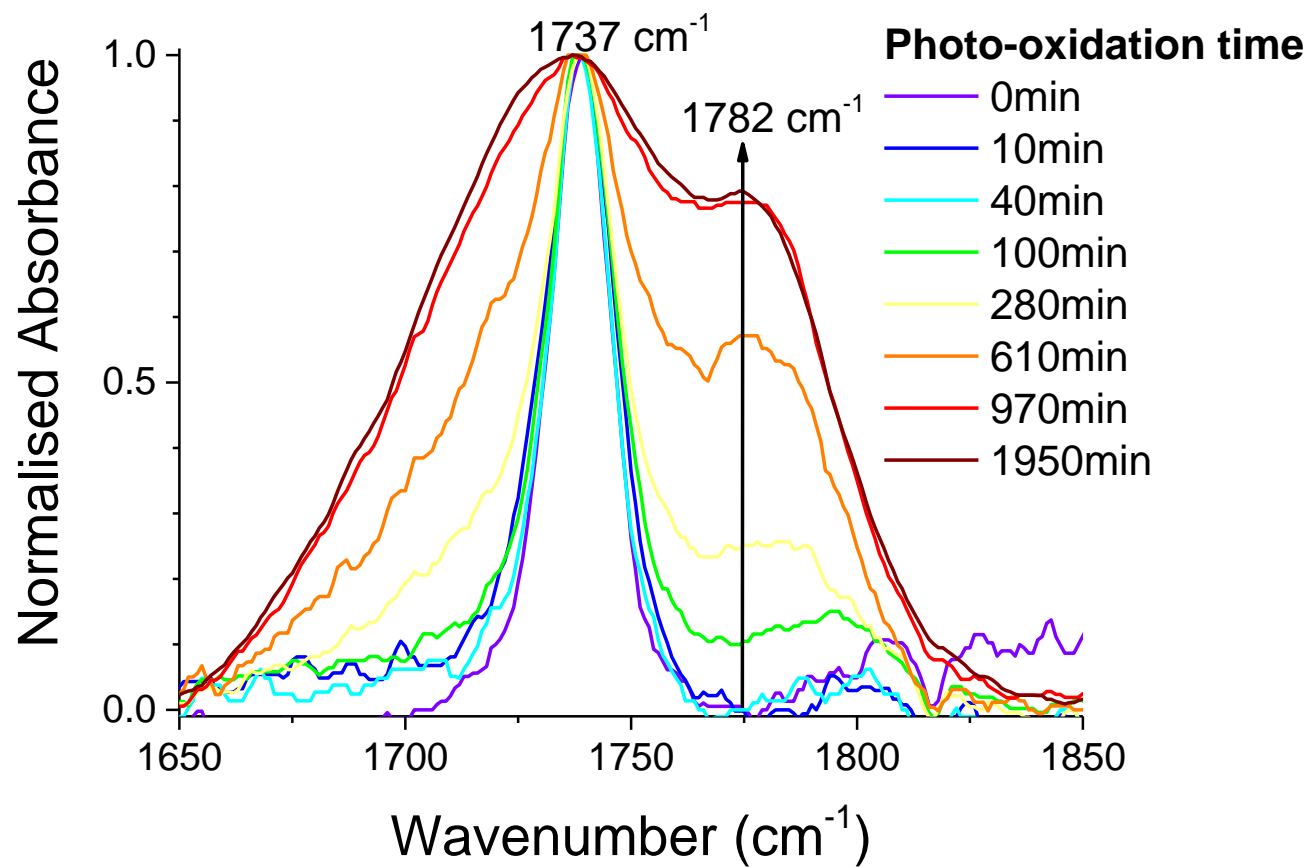


Degraded  
PCBM in  
solution

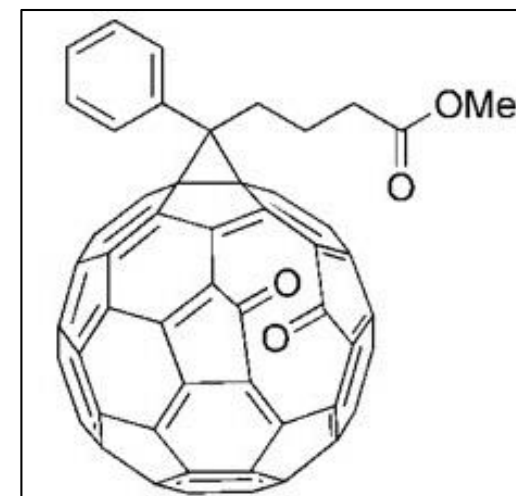




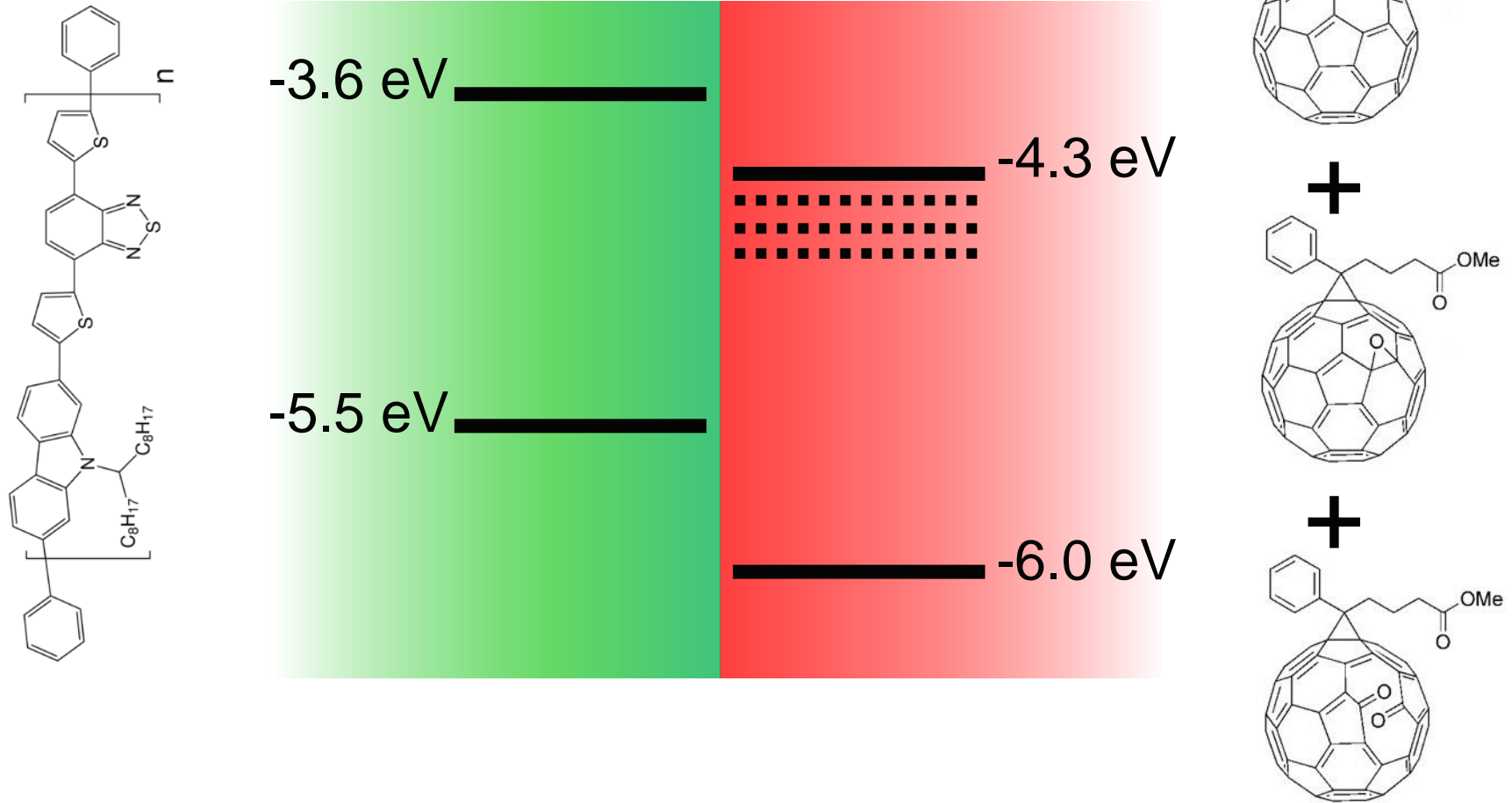
# IR spectroscopy



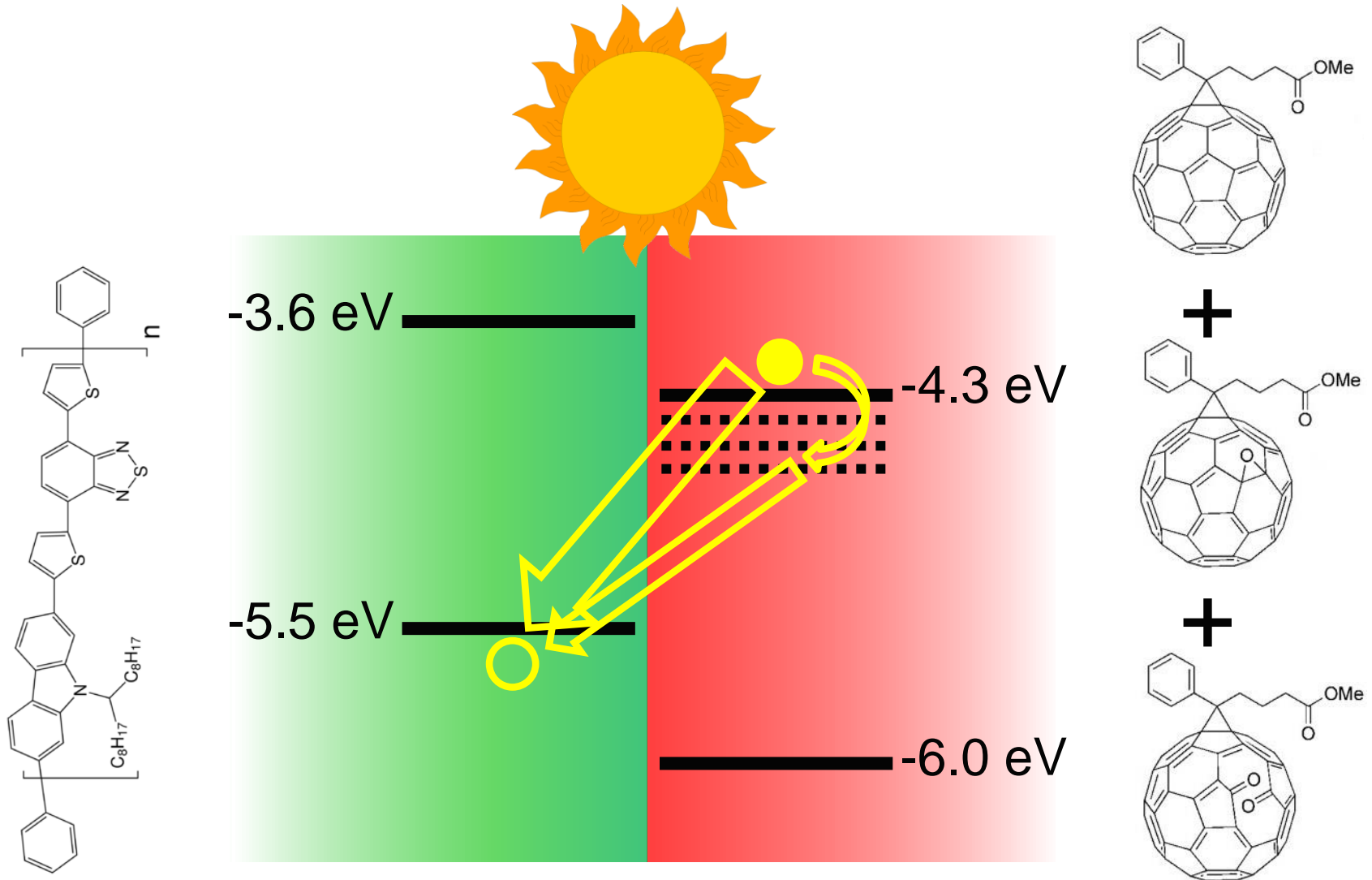
Emily Speller



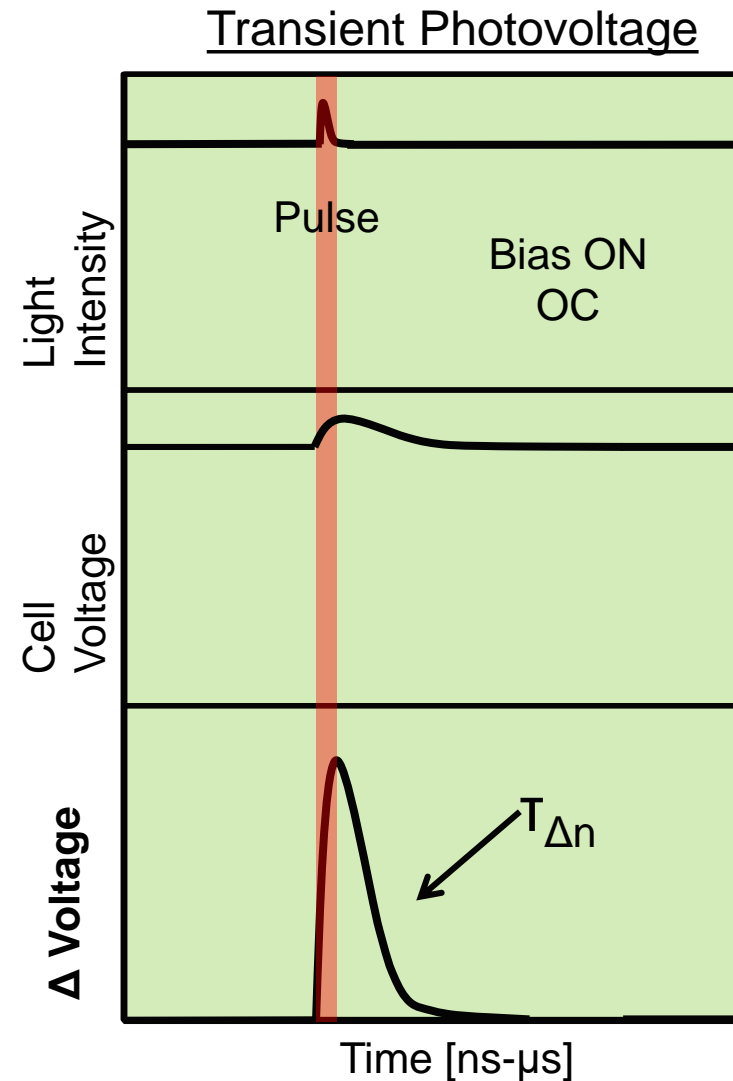
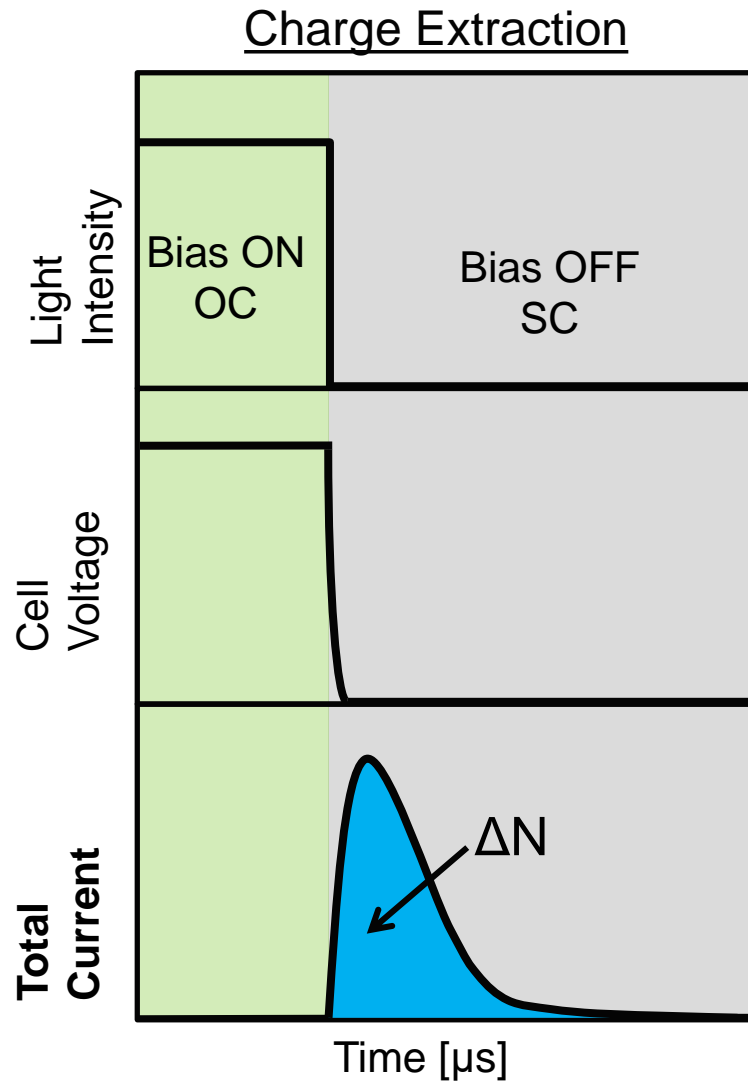
# Sub-band gap states in PCBM



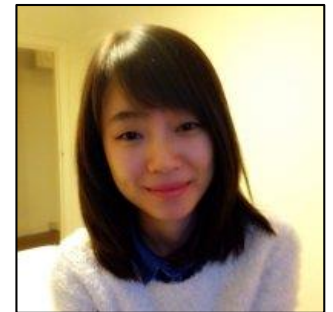
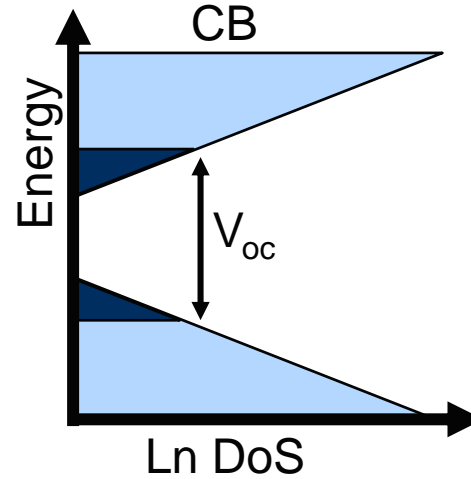
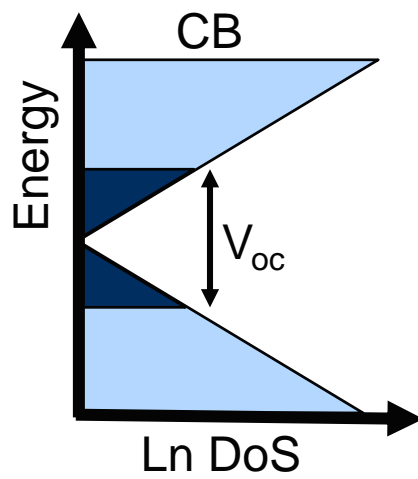
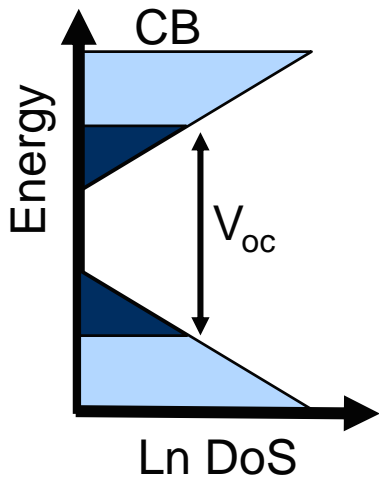
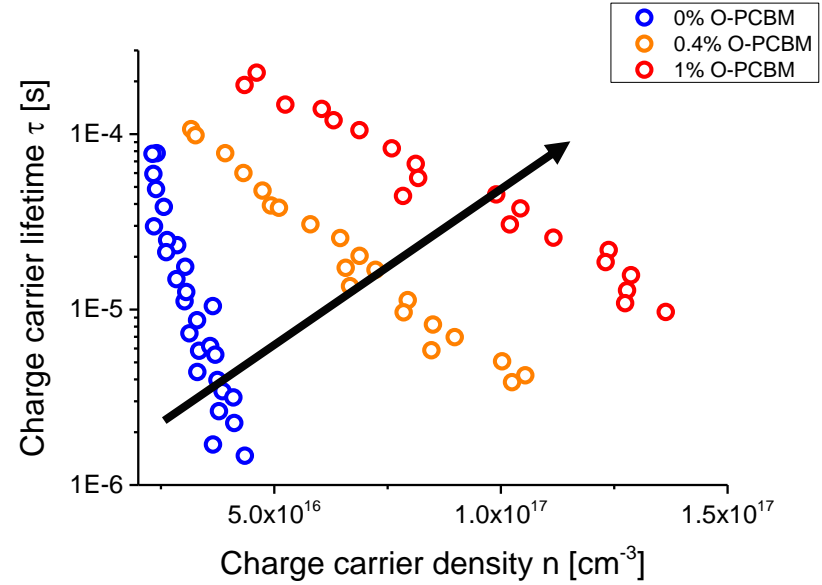
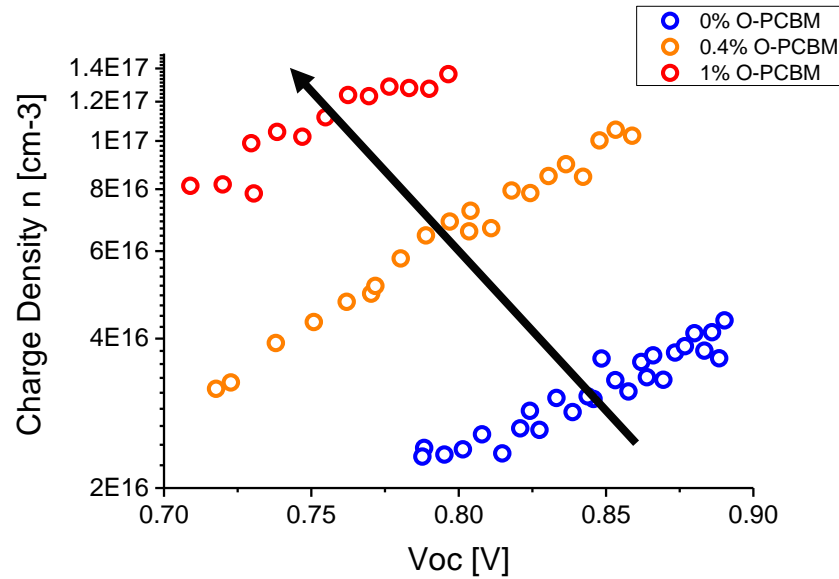
# Effect on RECOMBINATION #1: solar cell



# What happens in the device?



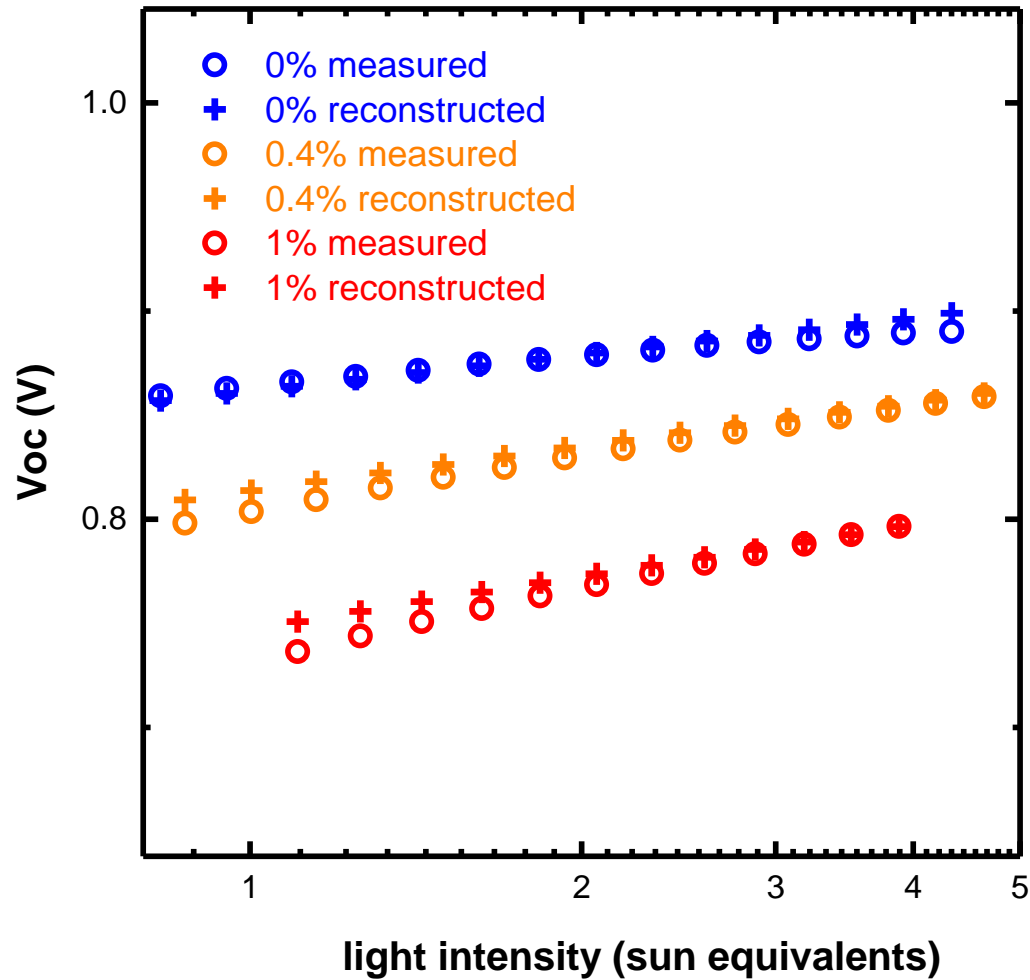
# Charge extraction and Transient Photocurrent/Photovoltage Spectroscopies



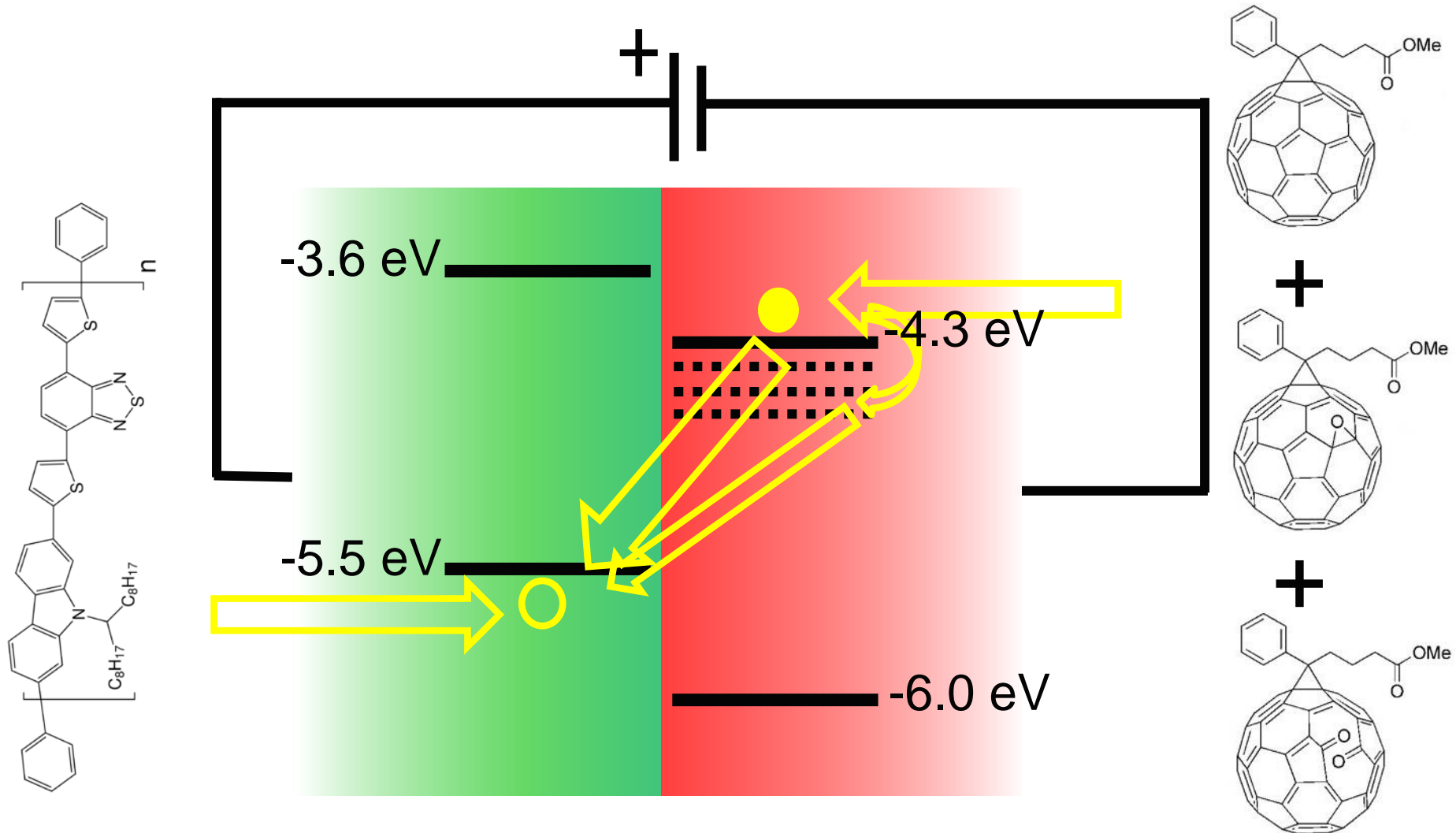
Jiaying Wu



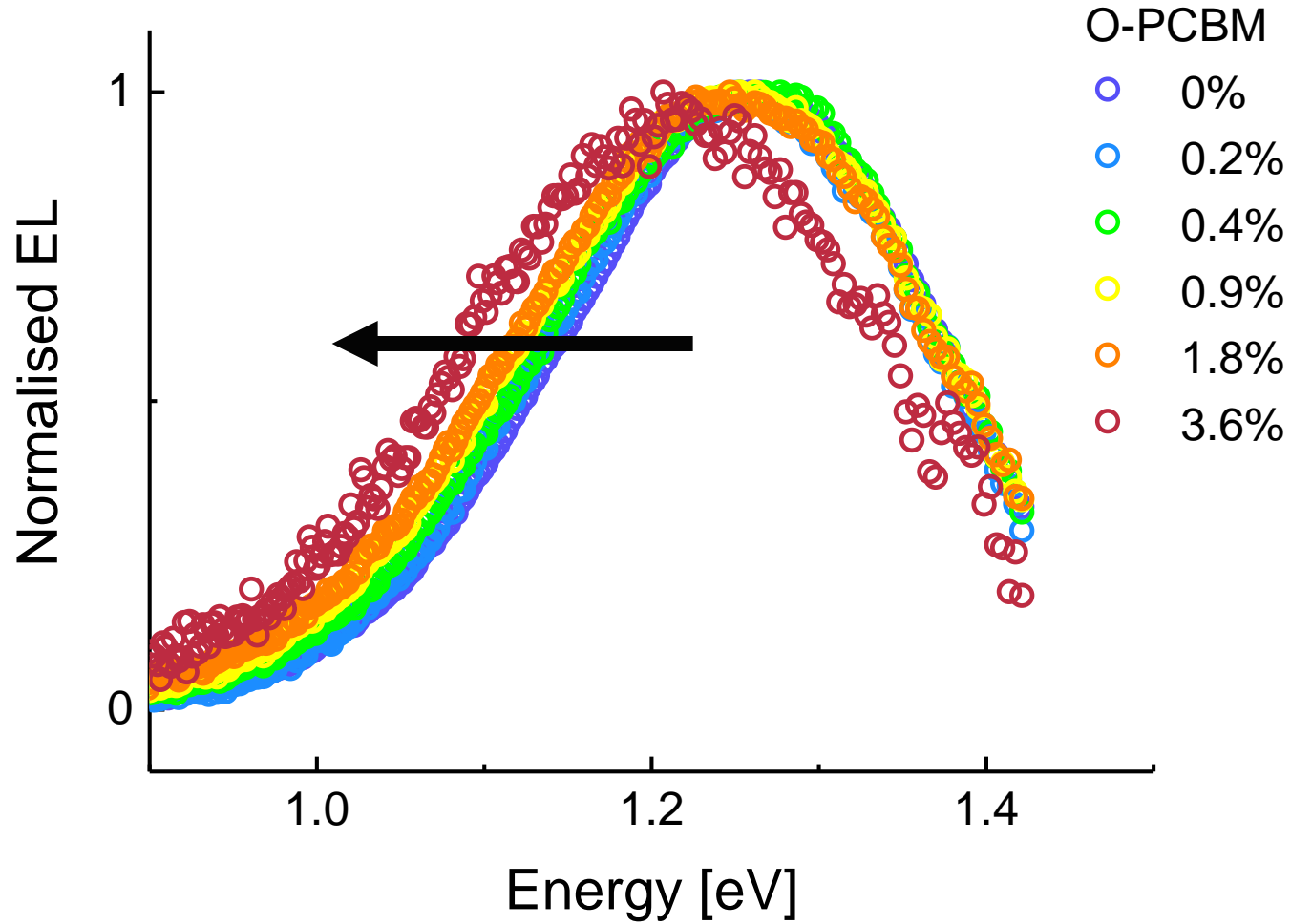
# Voc reconstruction



# Effect on RECOMBINATION #2: LED

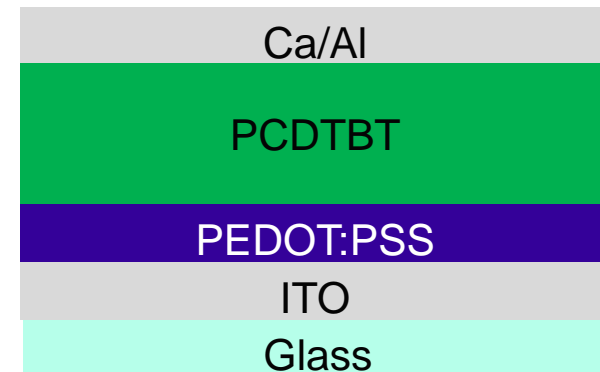
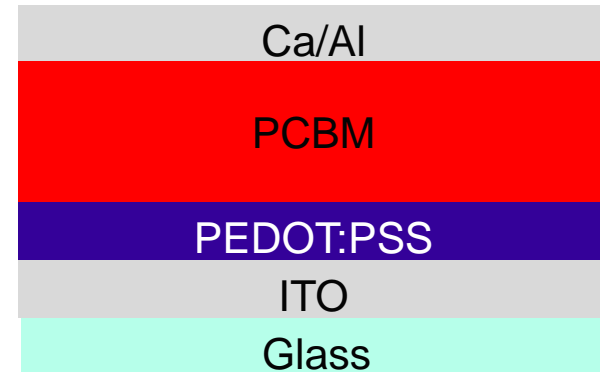
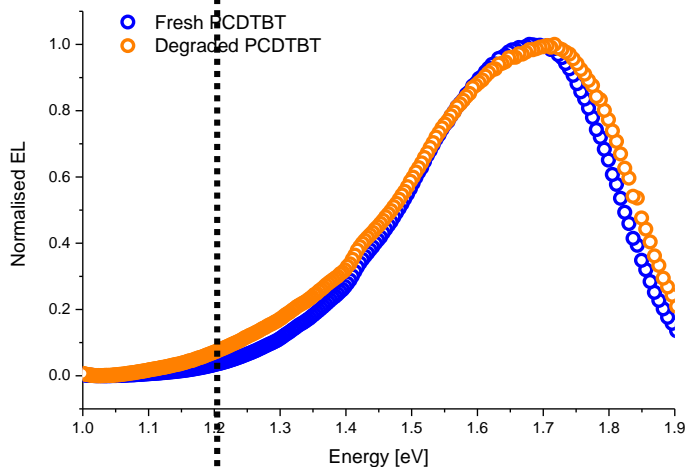
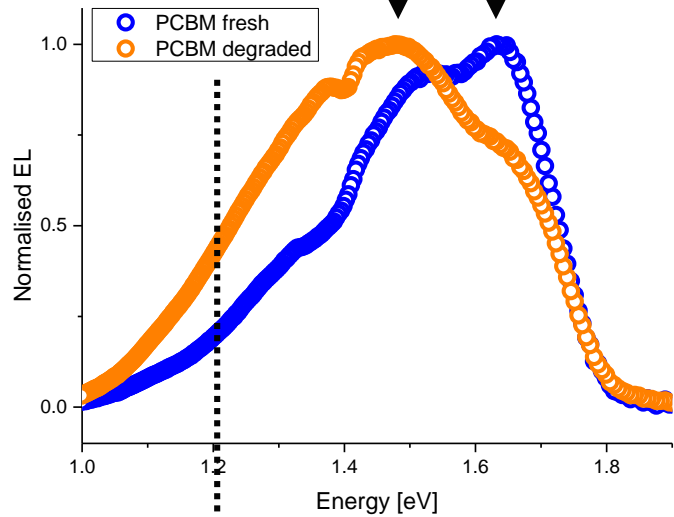


# Electroluminescence

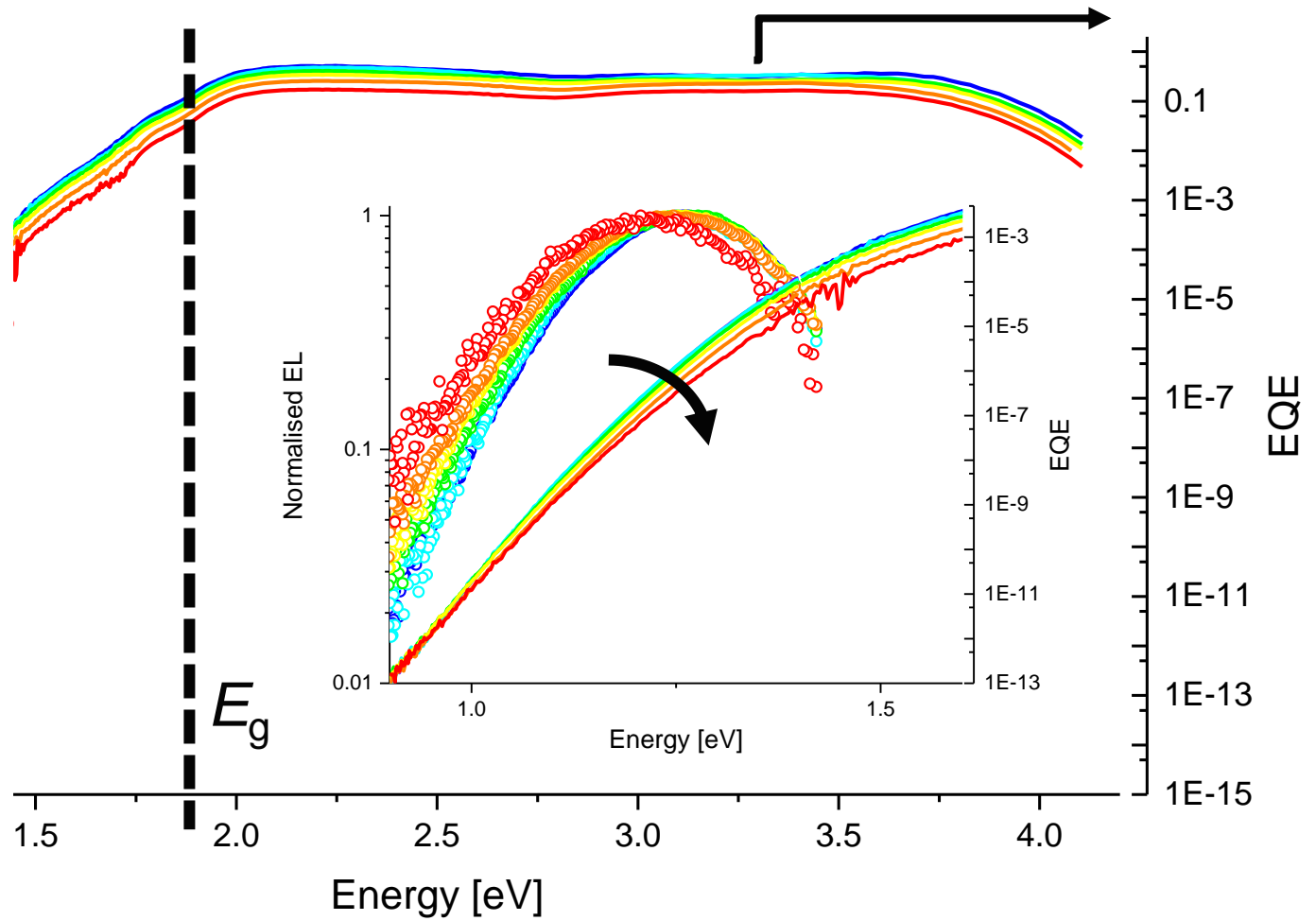


# EL of pure blend components

Red-shift or change in oscillator strengths?



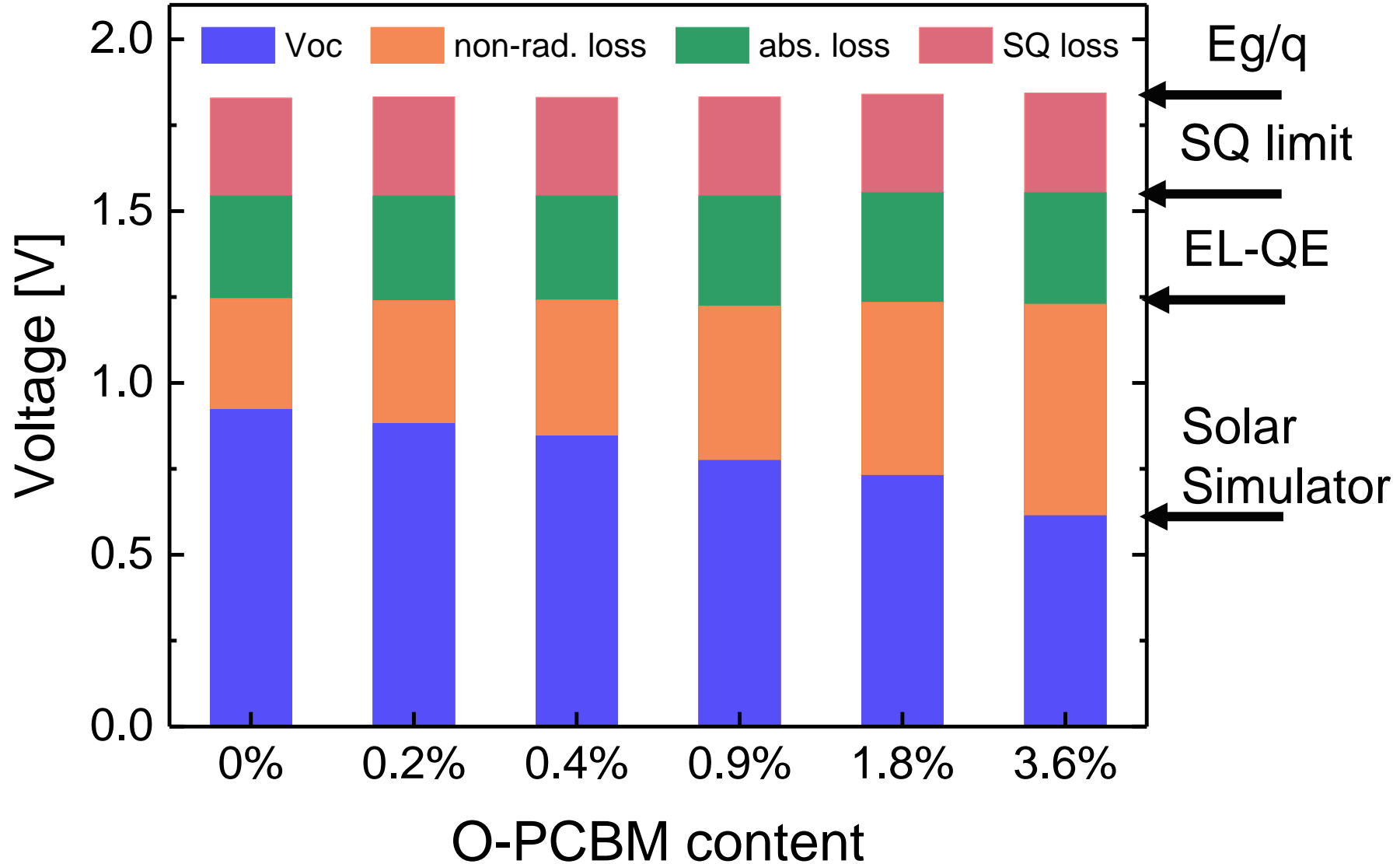
# Electroluminescence and external quantum efficiency



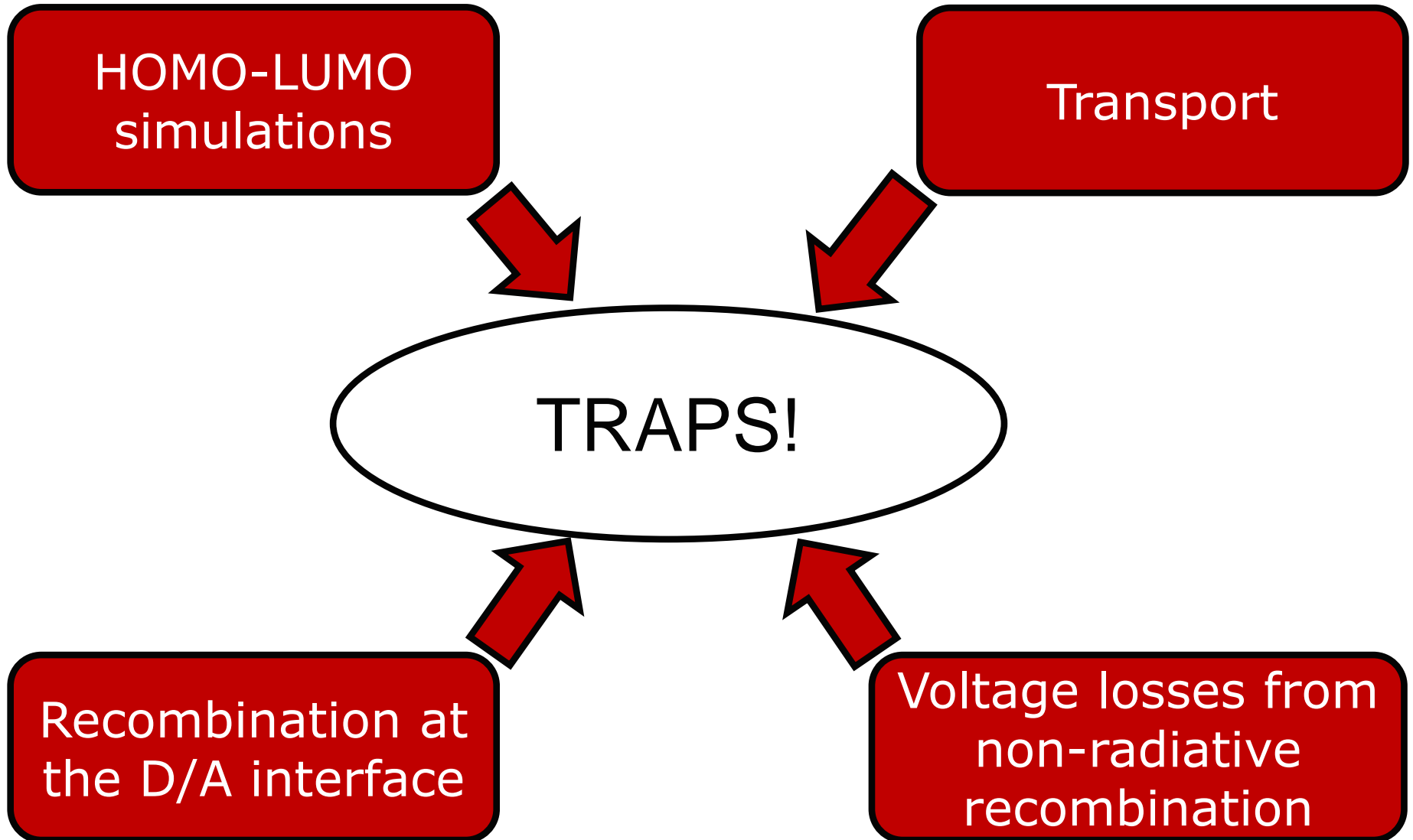
$$J_{0,rad} = q \int_0^{\infty} EQE \cdot \phi_{bb} dE \quad V_{OC,rad} = \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{J_{sc,rad}}{J_{0,rad}} + 1 \right)$$



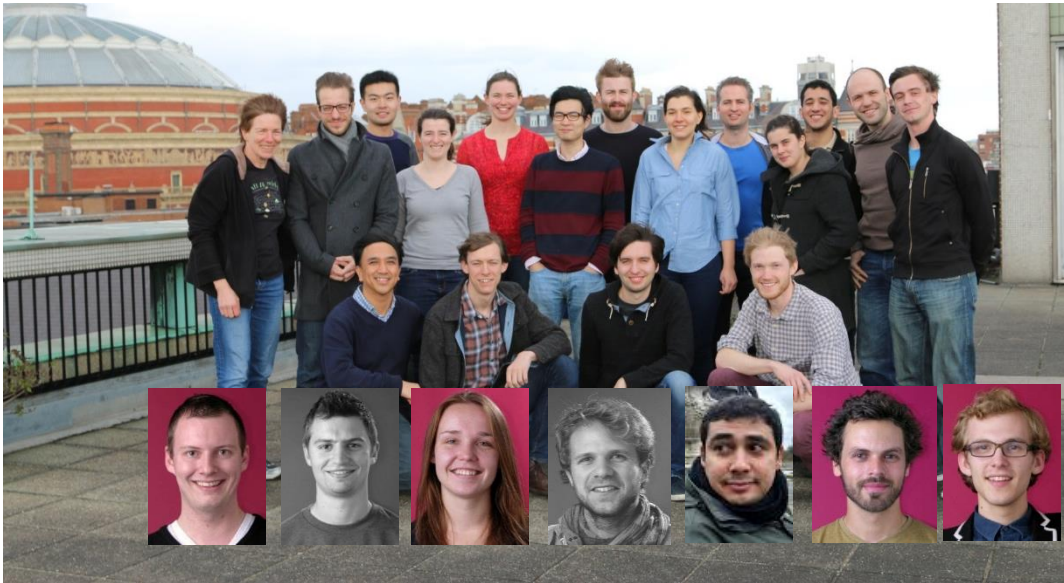
# Open-circuit voltage losses



# Conclusions



# Thanks



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- Emily Speller (Swansea)
- Wing C. Tsoi (Swansea)
- Zhe Li (Swansea)
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- Paul O'Brien (Manchester)
- Paul McNaughter (Manchester)
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