Study report of OLED

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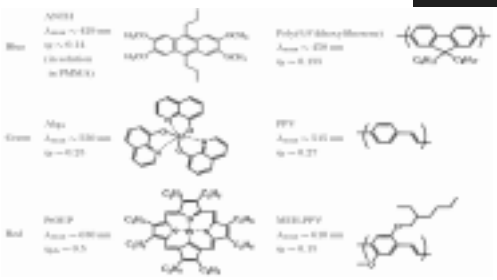
C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris, t. 1, Serie IV, p. 381-402, 2000.

Outline

- Organic materials
- Operation steps of an OLED
- Conclusion

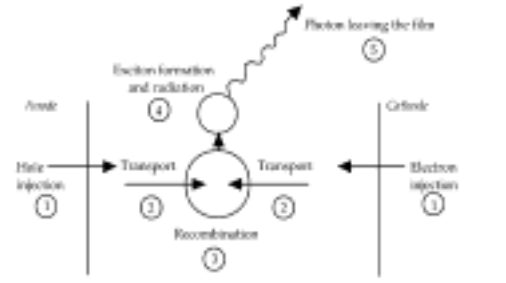
Molecule (left) and Polymer (right)



Different types of emitting materials

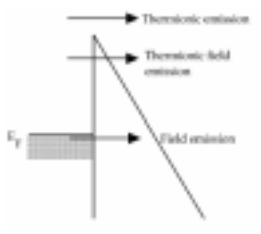
- Conjugated small molecule:
  1.Small, 0-D, weakly anisotropic.
  2.Deposited by evaporate (熱蒸鍍), multilayers with sharp interfaces are easily prepared.
- Conjugated polymer chains:
  1.large, 1-D, amorphous, highly anisotropic.
  2.Large area homogeneous polymer thin films are easily deposited by spin-coating (旋轉塗佈).

Operation steps of an OLED



Injection

- Thermoionic emission
- Tunneling
- Combination



Tailored interface

- Attaching substituent to the organic materials.
- Inserting a dipolar layer at the interface.
- Insertion at the interface of insulating barriers thin enough to allow tunneling.

Carrier transport

- Mobility (μ):

  In low μ case, dispersive transport is observed. (different current transient sharps)
- Fast increase of μ with electric field:

  Particularly in polymer, μ will start to increase rapidly at very large fields

  >1 MV/cm. (This property can be used to produce laser light)

Langevin-type recombination

- Capture distance: $r_c = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\varepsilon\varepsilon_0 kT}$
- Recombination rate: $\gamma_l = \frac{e(\mu^+ + \mu^-)}{\varepsilon\varepsilon_0}$
- The capture results from a process of diffusion in a field treated by Langevin.

Space-Charge Limited (SCL) condition

- High EL yields require:

  1.Efficient recombination

  2.Reach SCL conditions (no trapping carrier)

  In non SCL condition requires large applied voltage, hence smaller energetic yields (the factor $h\nu$/eV decrease).

Photo emission

- Electroluminescence quantum yield is proportional to $\frac{\eta_s + 3\eta_t}{4}$.
- η_s: Singlet emission, fluorescence.
- η_t: Triplet emission, phosphorescence.
- Currently favored materials in OLED have $\eta_s \approx 0.15\text{-}0.6$; $\eta_t \approx 0$.

Photo extraction

- The probability P_0, that the photons are emitted outside the device is small.
- Improvement:

  1.Reflecting mirrors

  2.Microcavity

Multilayer diodes (I)

- Organic material should have:

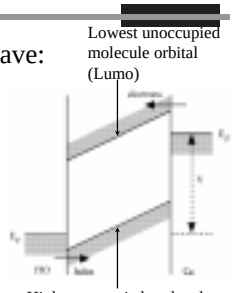
1.Large electron affinity

A_c (Lumo) ≥ 3 eV.

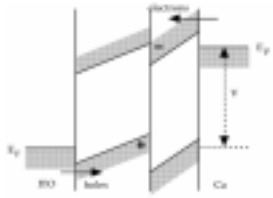
2.Small ionization potential

I_c (Homo) < 5 eV.

$E_g = I_c - A_c$



Multilayer diodes (II)



- The device would increase yield and shift the wavelength.

Conclusion

- Much work remains to be done on physical problems:

1.Understanding interfaces and injection.

2.High voltage/high current operation.

- Optimization depends on improved materials.