WORKSHOP NANOTECNOLOGIA E NANOCIÊNCIA: BRASIL - UE



Polymeric nanostructures

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Soft Matter: a large number of possibilities

Phase Diagram

- polymers
- colloids
- surfactants



Conducting Polymers



Conducting polymers as promising materials for:

• OLEDs



Fig. 1 Schematic structure of a bulk heterojunction photovoltaic device as well as the structural formulae of commonly used compounds in the active layer: poly(2-methoxy-5-(3',7'-dimethyloctyloxy)-1,4-phenylene-vinylene) (MDMO-PPV); poly-(3hexylthiophene) (P3HT); poly(9, 9'-dioctylfluorene-co-bis-N,N'-(4-butylphenyl)-bis-N,N'-phenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine) (PFB); poly(2-methoxy-5-ethylhexyloxy-1,4phenylenecyanovinylene) (CN-MEH-PPV); [6,6]-phenyl-C₆₁ butyric acid methyl ester (PCBM); and poly(9,9'-dioctylfluorene-co-benzothiadiazole) (F8BT).



The different layers of the composition of the OLED



FIG. 1. Scenarios for energy level alignment at organic-organic interfaces when one of the organic materials is p-type doped. (a) Both materials undoped; (b) molecular level bending in the doped layer; and (c) interface dipole barrier formation.



Conducting polymers as promising materials for:

• electromechanical actuators ("artificial muscles")



• microfluidics: pumps, sphincters, ...

Conducting polymers as promising materials for:

• "electronic nose" type of instruments

The resistivity of a polymeric film changes after exposure to a vapor:



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Polypyrrole Based Aroma Sensor*

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Fig. 1: Diagram of the P-2 prototype, with an indication of the current source for one of sensor units.



Fig. 3: Fractional change of V₂₃ in four of the P-2 sensors after exposure to rosé, red and white wines



Fig. 4: Fractional change of V₂₃ in the P-2 sensors after exposure to red wines of different vintages.

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Free-grown polypyrrole thin films as aroma sensors

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Fig. 6. UV-Vis/NIR absorbance spectra of PPy/ASA films prepared by direct and intermittent polymerization.

- electrochemical polymerization
- polymerization by vapor phase technique







Fig. 2 - Sensitivity of the sensors (the counter-ion effect).



$$f_{\rm d} = \frac{R_t - R_0}{R_0}$$



Figure 9





Self-assembly of complex structures



Colloidal Systems

Colloidal Emulsions and Dispersions

Size distribution of the particles



Fig:5.1 Relative particle size: (a) Solute in a solution = 1. (b) Dispersed particles in a colloid = 10 to 100 (c) Suspended particles in a suspension > 100

Table 1.1: Types of dispersions. *Porous solids have a bicontinuous structure while in a solid foam the gas phase is clearly dispersed.

| Continuous phase | Dispersed phase | Term | Example |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Gas | liquid solid | aerosol aerosol | clouds, fog, smog, hairspray smoke, dust, pollen |
| Liquid | gas liquid solid | foam emulsion sol | lather, whipped cream, foam on beer milk ink, muddy water, dispersion paint |
| Solid | gas | porous solids* foam | styrofoam, soufflés |
| | liquid solid | solid emulsion solid suspension | butter concrete |

Surfactants

"as different as oil and water"

• water and oil (fat) do not mix



Amphiphilic molecules

• 'water-loving' and 'water-hating' moieties





Surfactants are tensoactive molecules





Oil in water: More complex structures can be formed



The interior of the micelles as a differentiated micro (or nano?) environment



A complex diagram of possibilities



Schematic phase diagram; ØA is the surfactant volume fraction

- critical micellar concentration (cmc)
- critical micellar temperature (cmT)

•Krafft point: the triple point where crystals, monomers and micelles co-exist

Electrical Impedance Spectroscopy

(EIS)

• EIS: a spectroscopy very suitable to the analysis of polymeric systems



• different degrees of configurational freedom of a polymeric chain

Dielectric relaxation spectroscopy (DRS) reveals the molecular dynamics of polymeric materials by the characteristic response of polar groups and ions to a time-dependent electrical field. The extremely wide range in relaxation times is related to typical length scales associated to specific motions (local bond rotations, segmental motions, relaxation of the entire chain).



Nowadays, highly automated <u>spectrometer</u> allow fast and accurate dielectric measurements in a <u>wide frequency range</u> ($10^{-3} - 10^{9}$ Hz) and at temperature usually ranging from -160° - 400°C.

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Dielectric spectroscopy of blends of polyvinylalcohol and polypyrrole

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Polymeric blends composed of conducting polypyrrole chains dispersed in a matrix of polyvinylalcohol containing ferric chloride represent a class of materials whose electrical behavior is intermediary between those of insulating and conducting polymers. To investigate the transport and polarization characteristics of these films we examine in this work their dielectric relaxation spectrum in the frequency domain. A relaxation in frequency identified in the resistance-reactance diagram is followed as a function of the relative concentration of the two polymers, as different types of dopants are used to promote the conducting behavior of polypyrrole. We also analyze the change in the relative dc and ac contributions to the total conductivity of the samples as the amount of incorporated polypyrrole is increased. © 2003 American Institute of Physics. [DOI: 10.1063/1.1542918]





poly(vinyl alcohol)



FIG. 7. Comparison of the variation of the impedance as a function of the applied frequency for doped and pristine (PVA+FeCl₃+PPY) blends. In each case the matrix was exposed to pyrrole vapor during 60 min.

EIS:

a 3D map of the electrical response of colloidal systems



Critical Micellar Concentration

(cmc)

• cmc as a structural phase transition



• the absorption (removal) of contaminants in the interior of micelles when c > cmc



• cmc: a very important parameter

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Determination of Critical Micelle Concentration of Anionic Surfactants by Capillary Electrophoresis Using 2-Naphthalenemethanol as a Marker for Micelle Formation

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Figure 2.2 Effect of SDS concentration on the viscosity of HEUR solutions of different concentrations. Reproduced from [16].



Fig. 1 Effect of marker compounds on determination of CMC of SDS by CE. Marker: ○, toluene; •, 2-naphthalene-methanol; ▲, 2-naphthol.

379

• EIS as a competitive technique for the determination of the cmc in different systems


• EIS as a competitive technique for the determination of the cmc in different systems



Figura 6 –Z'(f=1 MHz) do alaranjado de metila a diferentes concentrações.

Metallic Colloidal Suspensions

The beautiful colors of medieval stained glasses



An ancient technique



Nanostructures: quantum confinement effects



Figure 1 : Absorption (upper part) and emission (lower part) of CdSe nanocrystals with diameters of 2.8 nm (green), 3.8 nm (yellow), 5 nm (red).

Synthesis



Luminescence Matrices



Principal Components Analysis





It is possible to tune the position and the intensity of the photoluminescence



PPy/PVA/AuNp film

Magnetic Colloids

Preparation of the Surfactant-PPY micelles

- Use a standard surfactant (Lutrol F68, a block copolymer of polyethylene and polypropylene glycol).
- After pyrrole is introduced into the solution, it can become incorporated into the micelles by energetic stirring.
- When ferric chloride (an oxidant) is introduced in the medium, polymerization begins both inside and outside the micelles.
- It is possible to separate the polymeric chains dispersed in the solution, leaving only the PPY chains trapped inside the micelles.

Polymerization also occurs inside the micelles

(emulsion polymerization)



Advantages of emulsion polymerization include:

• The water phase allows the heat to be removed from the system

 \rightarrow increase in the rate of many reaction methods

- Polymer molecules are contained within the particles → viscosity does not depend on molecular weight and remains close to that of water
- No need to alter or further process the final product, that can be used as obtained

polymeric nanostructures Lutrol-PPY samples



Lutrol-PPY samples

Impedance results for aqueous solutions





polymeric nanostructures Lutrol-PPY samples: effect of introducing PVA

Impedance results for aqueous solutions containing PVA



Introduction of PVA into the solution limits the range of variation of the impedance of the Lutrol-PPY solutions



PVA films containing Lutrol-PPY nanoparticles





PVA films containing Lutrol-PPY nanoparticles

 1.2×10^{9} - 16% 32% - 50% 1,0x10⁹ 8,0x10⁸ <u>с</u>) 6,0x10⁸ $4,0x10^{8}$ 2,0x10⁸ 0,0 2,0x10⁸4,0x10⁸6,0x10⁸8,0x10⁸1,0x10⁹1,2x10⁹1,4x10⁹ 0,0 Ζ'(Ω)

Impedance results for PVA films containing Lutrol-PPY nanoparticles (RX diagram)

Preparation of the micelles with a magnetic core

• To obtain the iron nanoparticles, we have used NH_4OH (ammonium hydroxide), $FeCl_3.6H_2O$ (ferric chloride hexahydrate) and $FeSO_4.7H_2O$ (ferrous sulfate heptahydrate).

• Under a N₂ atmosphere and by controlling the pH, the Fe nanoparticles are formed and can be magnetically separated from the solution.

• The magnetic particles can are incorporated into the micelles using the methods described before for the pure Lutrol-PPY case.

Preparation of Lutrol-PPY micelles with a magnetic core

| Sample | Pyrrole (µL) | Iron (mL) | Pyrrole (%) | Iron(%) |
|--------|--------------|-----------|-------------|---------|
| S1 | 173 | 0 | 100 | 0 |
| S2 | 147 | 0.1 | 85 | 10 |
| S3 | 121 | 0.25 | 70 | 25 |
| S4 | 95 | 0.4 | 55 | 40 |
| S5 | 69 | 0.55 | 40 | 55 |
| S6 | 43.25 | 0.7 | 25 | 70 |
| S7 | 17.3 | 0.85 | 10 | 85 |
| S8 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 100 |

Samples were prepared with a balance between the amount of PPY and Fe

Table I: Summary of the SDS-Fe-PPY solutions investigated in this work. The total volumes of each individual solution used (see text) are indicated; and the percent columns refer to the relative amount of pyrrole [Iron] present in a given solution compared to the maximum amount used (in sample S1 [S8]).

Lutrol-PPY nanoparticles with a magnetic core



Lutrol-PPY nanoparticles with a magnetic core



SEM images for samples with a significant amount of PPY

Lutrol-PPY nanoparticles with a magnetic core



SEM images: significant change in shape when amount of PPY is reduced

DIELECTRIC CHARACTERIZATION OF COLLOIDAL SURFACTANT-IRON-POLYPYRROLE PARTICLES

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polymeric nanostructures Surfactant-PPY nanoparticles

with a magnetic core

Dielectric response for different surfactants



Sodium dodecyl sulfate

Lutrol

polymeric nanostructures Surfactant-PPY nanoparticles with a magnetic core

Dielectric response for different surfactants



It is possible to get a balance between the conductive and the magnetic properties

polymeric nanostructures Surfactant-PPY nanoparticles with a magnetic core



Possible Applications: Cleaning up of chemical spillages



Surfactant-PPY nanoparticles

Lutrol-PPY micelles:

 ✓ samples with "tunable" conducting properties (as measured by the impedance level)

- Introduction of magnetic iron nanoparticles:
 ✓ balance between metallic and dielectric properties

Possible uses of water-based micellar systems containing polymers and metallic nanoparticles:

- anti-corrosive protection
- electromagnetic shielding ("stealth technologies")
- use in medical diagnosis

Possible Applications:

Cleaning up of chemical spillages



Possible Applications: Cleaning up of chemical spillages



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Colloidal dispersions of maghemite nanoparticles produced by laser pyrolysis with application as NMR contrast agents

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Figure 5. Composition formed from six TEM micrographs of the colloidal dispersion. A detailed view of one 50 nm aggregate is shown in a inset.

Application

for systems

of biological interest

DIELECTRIC PROPERTIES of Bauhinia monandra and

Concanavalin A LECTIN MONOLAYERS

PART I

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Luana C. B. B. Coelho⁵; Celso P. de $Melo^{2*}$


MIXED MONOLAYERS of Bauhinia monandra and Concanavalin A LECTINS with PHOSPHOLIPIDS

PART II

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USE OF POLYANILINE NANOPARTICLES IN ALL-POLYMER ELECTRONICS

polymeric nanostructures Micro (and nano) fluidics



Moving Fluids on Microchips

Fabricating Microfluidic Devices





Figure 4. Photograph of a microfluidic device used for studying concentration gradients in a network of branching serpentines, in which three dyes are injected at the top before combining in a single channel at the bottom.







How to connect the all-polymer circuit to the external world?

Microfluidics can be used for the preparation of Au nanowires





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Linear aggregation of gold nanoparticles in ethanol

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Fig. 5. The schematic illustration of the self-assembly process of gold nanoparticle chains based on the dipole assembly model.



Fig. 1. A TEM photograph of chain-like nanoparticle aggregates deposited on a microgrid covered with a very thin carbon film.



Fig. 4. Kinetics of chain-like aggregation of gold nanoparticles in ethanol with the particle concentration of 1.98×10^{15} ml⁻¹ (a) and 4.95×10^{15} ml⁻¹ (b). The recorded times corresponding with the solid lines, dashed lines, dash dot lines and short dot lines are 3 h, 1, 3 and 5 days, respectively.

PAN nanowires in a dielectric matrix



✓ Emulsion polymerization methods allow the preparation of micelles containing conducting polymers and metallic nanoparticles

✓ Such systems can find application in:

- anti-corrosive protection
- electromagnetic shielding ("stealth technologies")
- medical diagnosis
- environmental site remediation
- spectral control

Summary:

- composite polymeric nanostructures:
 - ✓ hybrid organic-inorganic systems
 - ✓ materials with controlled degree of conductivity
 - ✓ biological systems
- composite polymeric nanostructures appear as promising materials for:
 - ✓ OLEDs
 - ✓ mechanical actuators
 - ✓ electronic noses

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