

# Charge Transport

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### From Order to Disorder



#### From delocalized to localized states

Madelung, Introduction to Solid-State Theory, Springer

#### The Two-Site approximation $a, V_a$ b,V<sub>b</sub> ψ b ψ a E₁ $E_2$ (i) Splitting& $|E_1 - E_2|$ delocalization $V_a, V_b$ $\mathbf{2}$ E₁

Mott Electronic processes in non-crystalline materials, Clarendon Press 1979



Mott Electronic processes in non-crystalline materials, Clarendon Press 1979

# **Density of States**



(or an exponential tail, or Gauss+exp or others....) having  $\sigma$  of about 60-100 meV.



LUMO

HOMO



Troisi et al. 10.1021/ja404385y | J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2013, 135, 11247-11256 Atomistic models: the challenge is large size of the system and the nontrivial force fields

Bassler, Phys. Stat. Sol. B 175(1993) 15

# Hopping

#### Charge carriers are localized

Transport occurs by *hopping* between localized states



# Hopping

#### thermally activated tunnelling



# Hopping

#### thermally activated tunnelling





r



Nearest neighbor fixed range hopping



Variable range hopping: an optimum hopping distance

Madelung, Introduction to Solid State Theory, Springer Verlag 1978



# Hopping & Gaussian DOS: transport energy(1)



E

A level of most probable excitation EXISTS And does not depend upon the site starting energy (for tail states...)

Schmechel, PHYS.REV. B 66, 235206 ~2002



#### Hopping & Gaussian DOS: effect of T @ low density



Excitation from  $\overline{E}$  to  $E_{TR} \propto \exp\left(-\frac{E_{TR} - \overline{E}}{kT}\right) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{2}{3}\frac{\sigma^2}{kT^2}\right)$ 



#### Hopping & Gaussian DOS: effect of T @ low density



Excitation from  $\overline{E}$  to  $E_{TR} = \mu \propto \exp\left(-\frac{E_{TR} - \overline{E}}{kT}\right) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{2}{3}\frac{\sigma^2}{kT^2}\right)$ 



#### Hopping & Gaussian DOS: effect of T @ high density



EXCITATION FROM  $E_F$  to  $E_{TR}$   $\mu \propto \exp\left(-\frac{kT}{kT}\right)$ Coehoorn et al., PHYS. REV. B **72**, 155206 2005



#### Hopping & Gaussian DOS: effect of T @ high density



 $\mu(T, n, F) = \mu_0 \exp^{-2\alpha a} \exp^{-0.42\widehat{\sigma}} \times g_1(F, T) \times g_2(F, T)$ 

Density enhancement

At higher density, the  $E_F$  to  $E_{TR}$  distance diminishes

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Electric field

energetic barriers

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## Einstein relation



A disordered s.c. is practically always degenerate!

Tessler Appl. Phys. Lett., Vol. 80, No. 11, 18 March 2002

### **Einstein relation**



#### Diffusion vs. Mobility enhancement relation

$$D = \frac{kT}{e} \mu \times g_3(T, n)$$
Diffusion enhancement
$$g_3(T, n) = \frac{1}{k_B T} - \frac{p}{\frac{dp(E_F)}{dE_F}},$$
Density enhancement
$$g_1(T,c) = \exp\left[\frac{1}{2}(\hat{\sigma}^2 - \hat{\sigma})(2c)^{\delta}\right]$$

$$\hat{\sigma} = \sigma/(k_B T) \quad c = n/N_t \quad \delta = 2 \frac{\ln(\hat{\sigma}^2 - \hat{\sigma}) - \ln(\ln 4)}{\hat{\sigma}^2}$$

$$\int \frac{dp(E_F)}{dE_F} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{dp(E_F)}{dE_F} = \frac{1}{2$$

### Hopping and spatial current distribution



# Correlated Gaussian Disorder Model(1)

The energetic disorder is *spatially* correlated



The deepest valley are the widest ones

# Correlated Gaussian Disorder Model(2)

The electric field lowers the escape barriers



# Correlated Gaussian Disorder Model(3)



# Correlated Gaussian Disorder Model(4)



Parris, Phys. Stat. Sol. (b) 218, 47 (2000)



#### Bobbert Organic Electronics 10 (2009) 437–445

## Polarons(1)

Relaxation of excess slow carriers...



#### ...due to **on-site e/p** coupling

# Polarons(2)

Relaxation of excess slow carriers



Large polaron: Increased effective mass

Small polaron: self-localized in a potential well

Sources:

- intramolecular vibrations
- Intermolecular vibrations
- Electronic polarization



### Polarons(3)



Role of the number of  $\pi$  carbon atoms

Burdett, Chemical Bonding in Solids, Oxford University press 1995

# Polaron Hopping 1 2

#### Thermal fluctuations create Coincidence Event





Holstein, Ann.Phys. 8 1959, 325

Disorder and polarons...Parris Phys.Rev.Lett. 87, 2001, 126601

#### Polaronic effect + Energetic Disorder



Charge density dependence almost supressed in the polaron model

Fischuk PHYSICAL REVIEW B 76, 045210 2007

#### Polaronic effect + Energetic Disorder



The transport energy lies higher in the polaron model -> The relative change due tue Fermi level lifting is smaller

Fischuk PHYSICAL REVIEW B 76, 045210 2007

# Back to Hopping Rate

E' un processo di tunnelling termicamente attivato





# Xtal structure and transfer integral: two etylene molecules



Mixed bonding/antibonding interaction

Full (anti)bonding interaction

HOMO splitting larger than LUMO splitting

Bredas, Chem. Rev. 2004, 104, 4971–5003; 2007, 107, 926



 $-\alpha L$ 



# Tetracene dimer: long axis displacement

 $p[\text{HOP}] \propto \exp^{-\frac{\Delta E}{kT}}$ 

 $exp^{-\alpha L}$ 



Chang et al. Phys. Status Solidi B 249, No. 9, 1655–1676 (2012)



#### Pentacene



Equilibrium stacking does not correspond to a max of transfer integral ///

Sirringhaus et AL. Phys. Status Solidi B 249, No. 9, 1655–1676 (2012) / DOI 10.1002/pssb.201248143

# Single Crystal & polycrystals: bandlike transport?



Sirringhaus et al. Phys. Status Solidi B 249, No. 9, 1655–1676 (2012) / DOI 10.1002/pssb.201248143



# Single Crystal & polycrystals: bandlike transport?



## So what?



# Single Crystal & polycrystals: bandlike transport?



Large transfer integral fluctuations (*non-local e/p coupling*) -> dynamic disorder -> charge «localizaton» yet, band like temperature dependence, μ∝T<sup>-n</sup>

Troisi, J. Phys. Chem. A 2006, 110, 4065-4070, Adv. Mater. 2007, 19, 2000–2004

## Our understanding so far



Wavefunction **localization** due to the dynamic disorder is **small enough** to give signature of localized states but **large enough** to allow observation of Hall effect

# What about high (>1cm<sup>2</sup>/Vs) mobility polymers?

The (dis)order paradigm for high  $\mu$ 



# The (dis)order paradigm for high $\mu$



# Doping

•Interstitial: the problem of stability for small dopants (eg metals: Li<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, I<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>..)

- •Molecular doping is better
- •The effect of the dielectric constant

(binding energy/dopant density)



Gregg, Chemistry of Materials, 16, 2004, p 4586-4599

# Doping: C→N substitution *?!*



The supposed dopant acts as a trap!!!

Vaid, Chem.Mater 2003, 15, 4292

# Molecular Doping(1)





Leo et al. Chem. Rev. 2007, 107, 1233-1271

# Molecular Doping(2)



Leo et al. Chem. Rev. 2007, 107, 1233–1271

# Doping: short-range interactions & doping-induced disorder





## N-type doping



#### N-type doping: the precursor way







Leo et al., Phys. Status Solidi A 210, No. 1, 9–43 (2013)

### The End

### Almost....The End

Tessler et al. Adv. Mater.2009, 21,2741–2761

Bobbert et al Phys. Status Solidi A209, 2354–2377 (2012)

Baranovskii, Phys. Status Solidi, vol. 251 pp. 487–525, 2014.

# Hopping@low T



# Hopping revised: on-chain matters...



### **Density of States**



Bassler, Phys. Stat. Sol. B 175(1993) 15

(debate ongoing Vukmirovic J. Phys. Chem. B, 2011, 115 (8), pp 1792–1797



Bredas et alPHYSICAL REVIEW B87, 195209 (2013)