

DOCTORAL THESIS

Transport and luminance of organic electronic materials

Fong, Hon Hang

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**Transport and Luminance
of
Organic Electronic Materials**

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A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of
Doctor of Philosophy

Principal Supervisor: Dr. SO Shu Kong

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Abstract

Organic electronic materials are being widely used in many opto-electronic applications, including organic light-emitting diodes (OLEDs), photovoltaic cells, and thin film transistors. In order to explore the underlying device physics, the electrical conduction of amorphous organic materials is essential.

In this thesis, the charge transport properties of amorphous organic materials, commonly used in organic light-emitting devices are investigated by the means of carrier mobility measurements. Both hole and electron mobilities of the hole dominant materials - *N, N'*-diphenyl-*N, N'*-bis(3-methylphenyl)-(1,1'-biphenyl)-4,4'-diamine (TPD), and the electron dominant materials - *tris*(8-hydroxyquinoline) aluminum (Alq_3) are examined using time-of-flight technique inside a vacuum cryostat, regulated from 200-400 K. The effects of ambient gases on electron transport are further investigated. As doping is essential for enhancing the performance of OLEDs, its influences on the carrier mobility in organic transporters are explored. Moreover, the steric hindrance and concentration effects on the carrier transport are also studied. Carrier transport models, in combination with quantum mechanical calculations, are employed to elaborate the physics of carrier transport in both pristine and doped organic systems. Armed with understanding generated from mobilities measurement, we successfully fabricated blue-emitting OLEDs using electron transporting *tris*(2-methyl-8-hydroxyquinoline) aluminum and hole transporting naphthyl phenylamine derivatives as the light-emitting materials.

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Declaration | i |
| Abstract | ii |
| Acknowledgements | iii |
| Table of Contents | v |
| List of Figures | ix |
| List of Tables | xvi |
| List of Symbols | xvii |
| List of Abbreviations | xix |
| | |
| Chapter One Introduction | 1 |
| | |
| I. Introduction | 1 |
| A. Operating Principle of Organic Light-emitting Diodes (OLEDs) | 3 |
| B. Important Development of OLED Devices | 7 |
| II. Review of Functional Organic Materials | 20 |
| A. Carrier Injection Materials | 20 |
| B. Carrier Transport Materials | 25 |
| C. Carrier Blocking Materials | 33 |
| D. Light-emitting Materials | 35 |
| III. Research Focus | 44 |
| IV. Further Applications | 47 |
| | |
| Chapter Two Principle of Luminescence and Charge Transport | 57 |
| | |
| I. Introduction | 57 |
| II. Photophysical Processes of Organic Materials | 57 |
| A. Overview | 57 |
| B. Optical Absorption and Emission of an Molecule | 59 |
| C. Energy Transfers | 65 |

| | | |
|----------------------|--|------------|
| D. | Excitons and Electroluminescence | 69 |
| III. | Carriers Injection and Transport in an Organic Light-emitting Diode | 71 |
| A. | Energy Barriers for Carrier Injection | 71 |
| B. | Means of Charge Injection | 74 |
| C. | Bulk Conduction in Organic Solids | 81 |
| D. | Carrier Transport Mechanisms | 85 |
| 1. | Band Conduction | 85 |
| 2. | Transport Models of Amorphous Organic Solids | 86 |
| Chapter Three | Experimental Techniques | 102 |
| I. | Materials Purification | 102 |
| II. | Sample Fabrication | 105 |
| A. | Substrate Pre-treatment | 105 |
| B. | Thin Film Deposition | 107 |
| C. | Device Encapsulation | 107 |
| III. | Experimental Configurations | 109 |
| A. | Electrical Transports in Oorganic Materials | 109 |
| 1. | Time-of-flight (TOF) Method | 109 |
| 2. | Transient Electroluminescence (EL) Method | 123 |
| B. | Optical Properties of Organic Materials | 129 |
| 1. | Photoluminescence Spectroscopy and Quantum Efficiency | 129 |
| 2. | Optical Absorption Spectroscopy | 131 |
| C. | Characterization of Organic Light-emitting Diodes | 131 |
| 1. | Electroluminescence Spectroscopy | 131 |
| 2. | Current-Voltage-Luminance Measurement | 131 |
| Chapter Four | Carrier Transport in Hole Dominant Amorphous Organic Solids | 137 |
| I. | Introduction | 137 |
| II. | General Observations of Time-of-flight Measurements in Hole Transporters | 139 |

| | | |
|---|---|------------|
| III. | Hole Transport Properties in Molecularly Doped Triphenylamine Derivatives | 143 |
| A. | Experimental | 144 |
| B. | Hole Transients and Mobilities of TPD, RB:TPD, and DCM1:TPD | 146 |
| C. | Interpretation of Hole Transport by Intentional Doping | 152 |
| D. | Summary | 162 |
| IV. | Hole Transport Properties of Amorphous Rubrene-based Organic Complex | 163 |
| A. | Experimental | 165 |
| B. | Hole Transients and Mobilities of RB and TBRB | 167 |
| C. | Interpretation of Steric Substitution on Rubrene Core Structure | 169 |
| D. | Summary | 176 |
| V. | Hole conduction in Alloys of Rubrene and TPD | 177 |
| A. | Experimental | 178 |
| B. | Results and Discussion | 179 |
| C. | Summary | 191 |
| Chapter Five Carrier Transport in Electron Dominant <i>tris</i>(8-hydroxyquinoline) aluminum | | 197 |
| I. | Introduction | 197 |
| II. | Organization | 199 |
| III. | Electron Transport in <i>tris</i> (8-hydroxyquinoline) aluminum | 201 |
| A. | Effect of thermal annealing on Alq ₃ | 202 |
| B. | Extrinsic Traps and Electron Mobility by Time-of-flight Measurement | 213 |
| C. | Electron Mobility by Transient EL Measurement | 222 |
| D. | Electron Transport Mechanism | 228 |
| IV. | Detailed Examination of Nitrogen, Oxygen, and Moisture on the Electron Transport of <i>tris</i> (8-hydroxyquinoline) aluminum | 234 |
| A. | Experimental | 235 |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|------------|
| B. | Results | 235 |
| C. | Discussion | 242 |
| D. | Conclusion | 246 |
| V. | Hole Transport in <i>tris</i> (8-hydroxyquinoline) aluminum | 248 |
| A. | Experimental | 249 |
| B. | Results and Discussion | 250 |
| C. | Conclusion | 259 |
| Chapter Six | Blue Organic Light-emitting Devices | 265 |
| I. | Introduction | 265 |
| A. | Hydroxyquinoline-based Blue Emitters | 265 |
| B. | Non-hydroxyquinoline-based Hole Transporting Blue Emitters | 266 |
| C. | Device Structures | 267 |
| II. | A Promising Saturated Blue Organic Emitter: <i>tris</i> (2-methyl-8-hydroxyquinoline) Aluminum | 268 |
| A. | Experimental | 273 |
| B. | Results and Discussion | 273 |
| C. | Conclusion | 282 |
| III. | Blue emission from triarylamine compounds | 284 |
| A. | Experimental | 284 |
| B. | Results and Discussion | 287 |
| C. | Conclusion | 298 |
| Chapter Seven | Conclusion | 301 |
| Appendices | | 306 |
| Curriculum Vitae | | 311 |