



International Workshop on Computational
Nanotechnology

June 12th-16th, 2023 Barcelona (Spain)

ELECTRIC FIELDS FOR TUNING MOLECULAR ORIENTATION IN TPD-MODIFIED GLASSES

Marta Rodríguez-López, Antonio Cappai, Claudio Melis, Luciano Colombo, Javier Rodríguez-Viejo, Marta Gonzalez-Silveira.



UAB
Universitat Autònoma
de Barcelona

ICN2^R
Institut Català
de Nanociència
i Nanotecnologia



Università degli Studi di Cagliari

INTRODUCTION

ORGANIC ELECTRONIC DEVICES

✓ Glassy organic thin films ($\sim 20 - 100$ nm)

✓ Customisable

✗ Longevity

✗ Efficiency

✗ Low mobilities

Improved by



- Thermal stability
- Packing
- Molecular orientation



INTRODUCTION

PHYSICAL VAPOUR DEPOSITION



SUBSTRATE

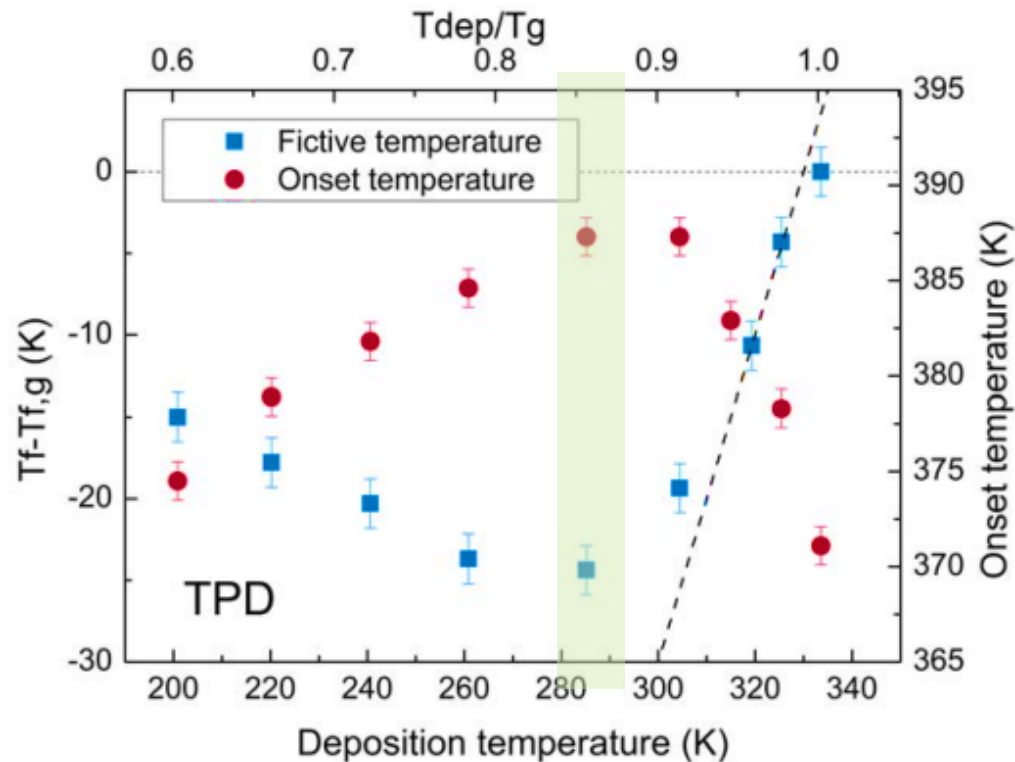
MATERIAL

INTRODUCTION

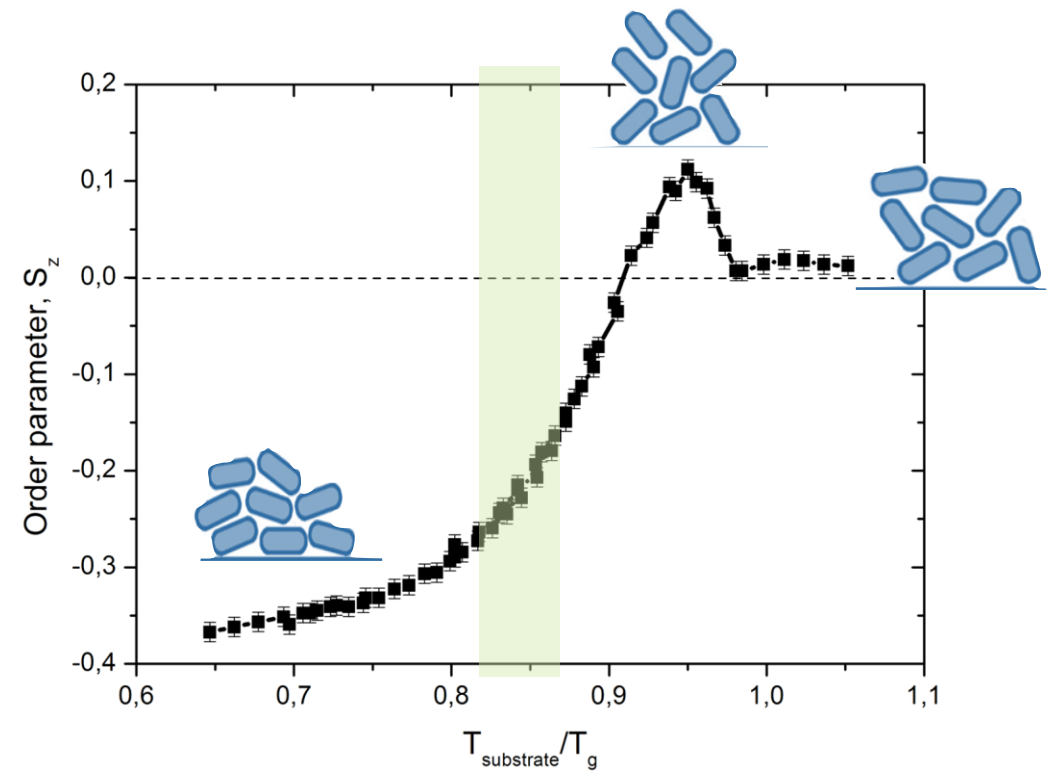
PHYSICAL VAPOUR DEPOSITION

Properties controlled by substrate temperature

➤ Deposit ultrastable glasses



➤ Create a preferential orientation



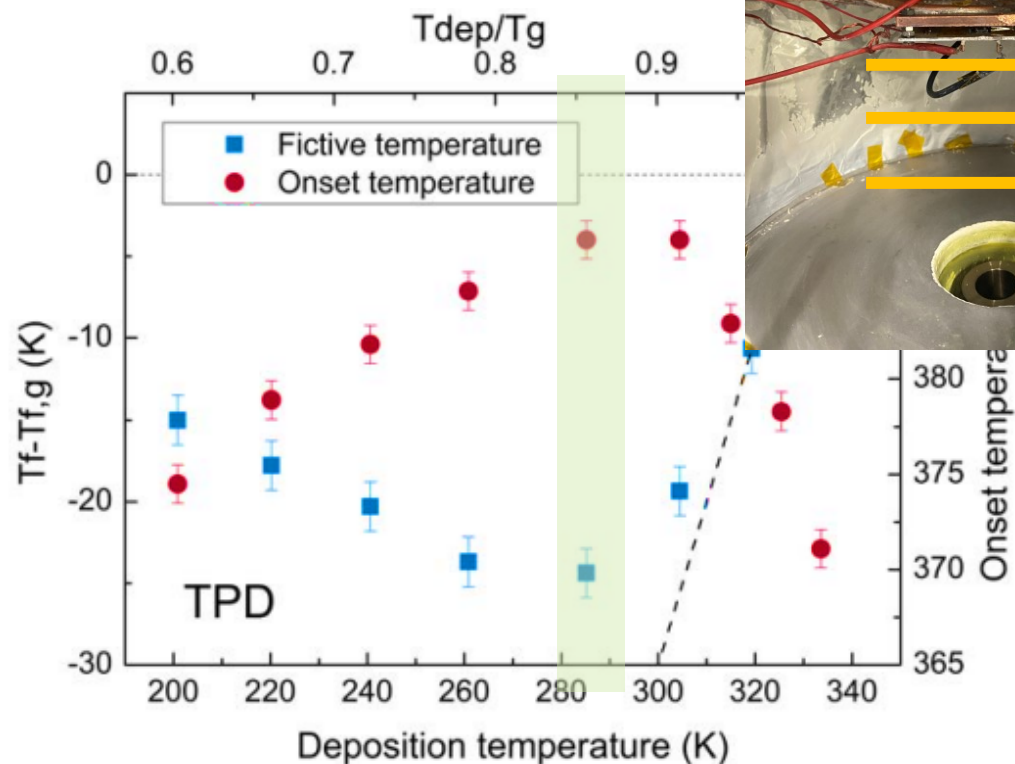
J.Ràfols-Ribé, *Organic Vapour Deposited Glasses: From Fundamental Thermal Properties to High Performance Organic Light-Emitting Diodes*, UAB (2017)

Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 112, 4227 (2015)

INTRODUCTION

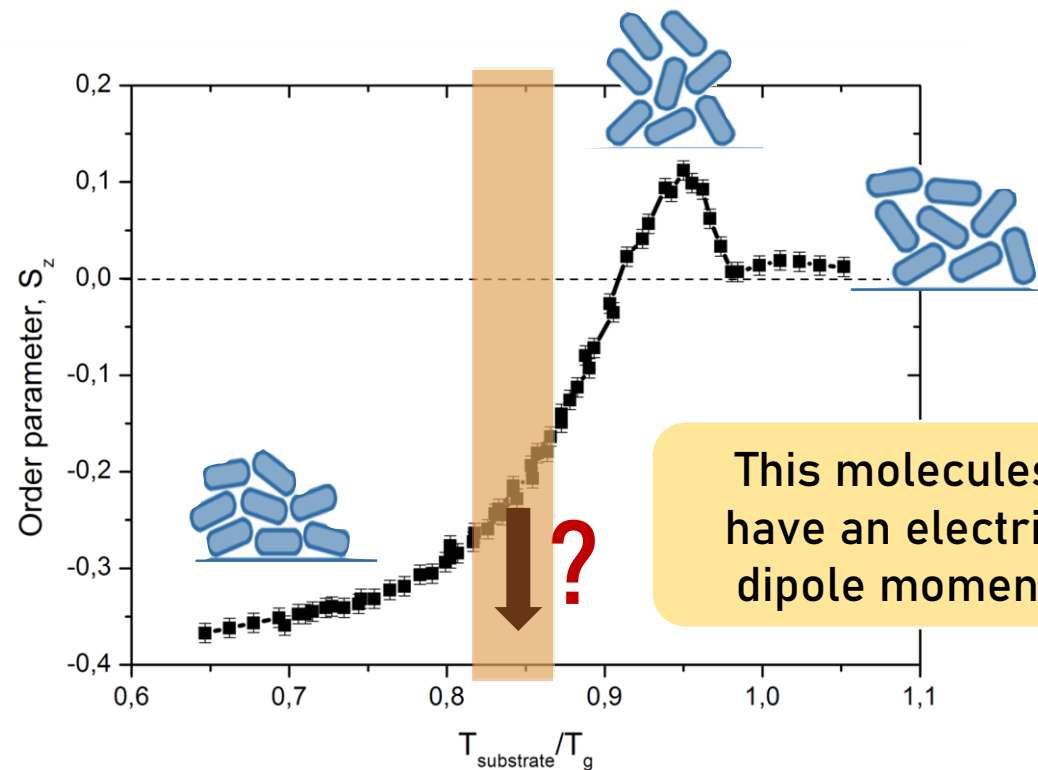
OBJECTIVES

- Deposit ultrastable glass



TUNE MOLECULAR ORIENTATION WITH AN ELECTRIC FIELD?

- Create a preferential orientation



J.Ràfols-Ribé, *Organic Vapour Deposited Glasses: From Fundamental Thermal Properties to High Performance Organic Light-Emitting Diodes*, UAB (2017)

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INTRODUCTION

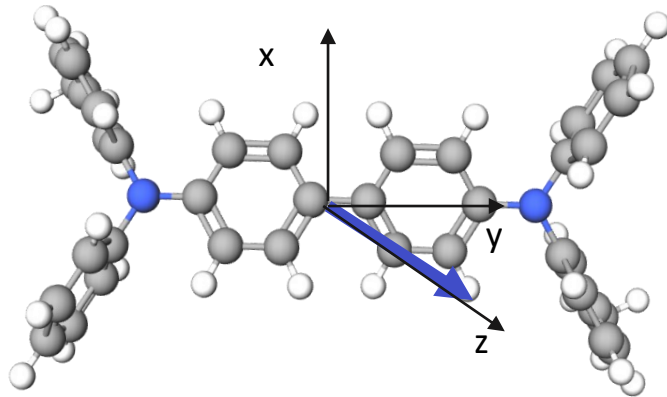
ORGANIC SEMICONDUCTING MOLECULES

μ DFT Calculations by Antonio Cappai
 T_g experimentally determined

TPD

$T_g=333$ K

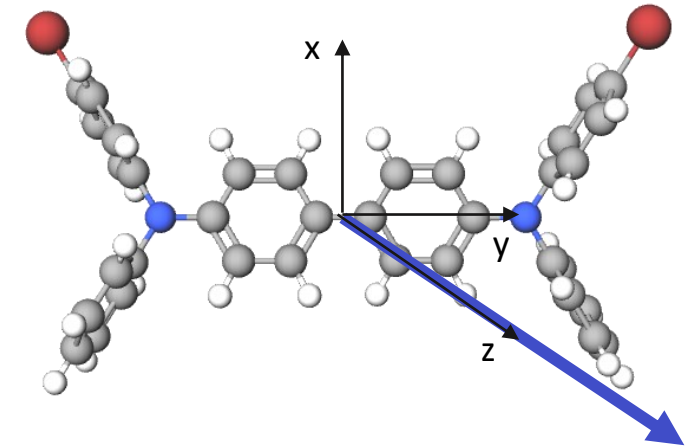
$\mu = 1.52$ D



TPD-Br1

$T_g=354$ K

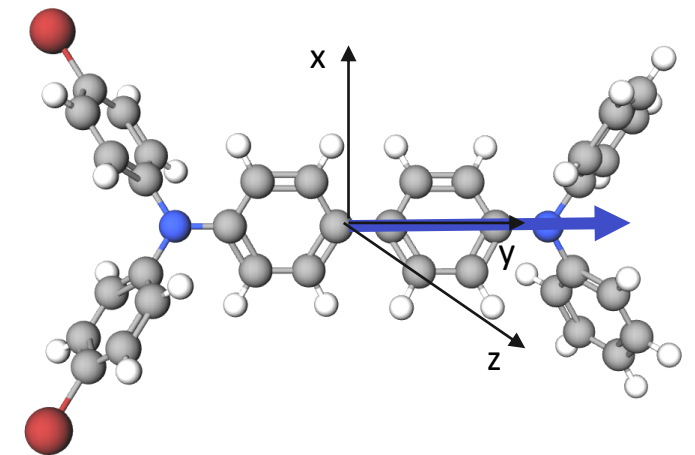
$\mu = 4.01$ D



TPD-Br2

$T_g=354$ K

$\mu = 2.84$ D

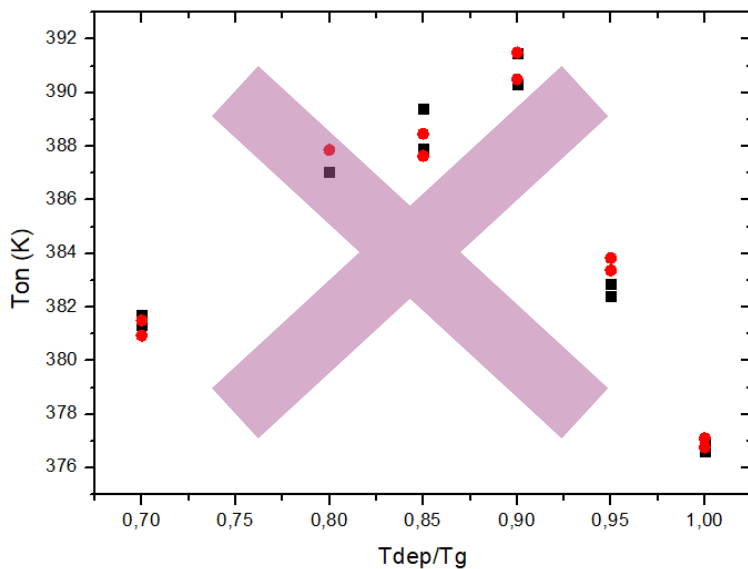


EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

NO RESPONSE TO ELECTRIC FIELD

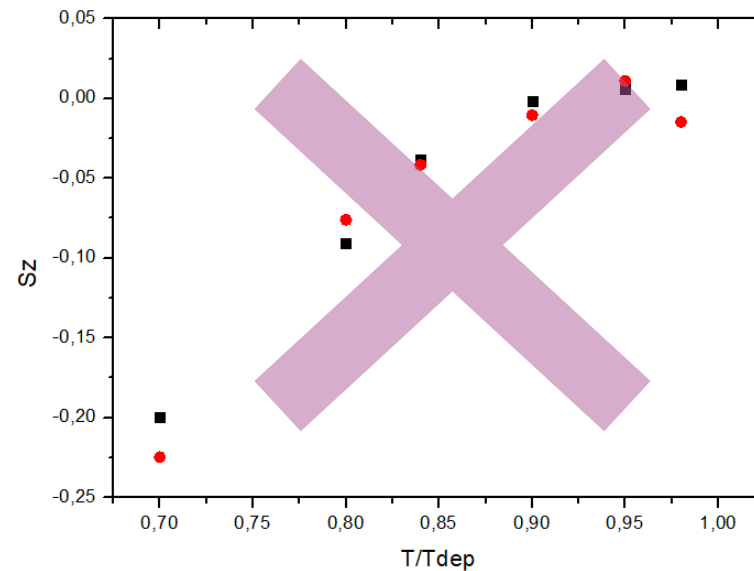


THERMAL STABILITY



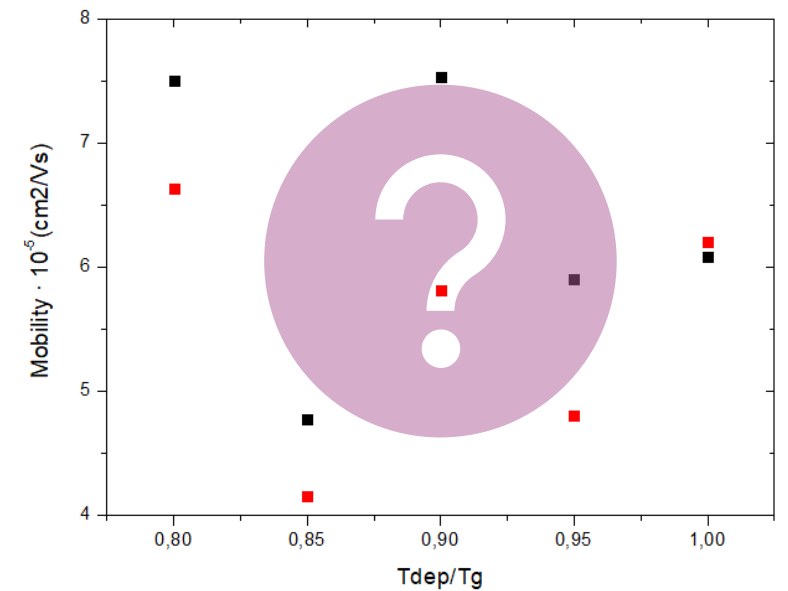
10^5 V/m

STRUCTURAL PROPERTIES



10^5 V/m

CARRIER MOBILITY



10^6 V/m

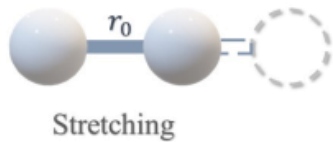
MOLECULAR DYNAMICS

SIMULATION CONDITIONS

LAMMPS software

Amber force field

DFT parameters

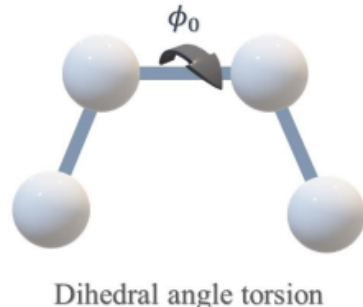
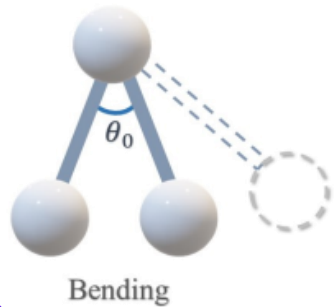


$$U^{bonds} = \sum_i^{n_b} k_i (r_i - r_0)^2$$

$$U^{angles} = \sum_i^{n_a} q_i (\theta_i - \theta_0)^2$$

$$U^{torsion} = \sum_i^{n_a} w_i (1 + \cos(n\phi_i - \phi_0))^2$$

Bonded part



$$U^{Coulomb} = \sum_{non-bonded} \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}$$

$$U^{LJ} = \sum_{non-bonded} 4\epsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} + \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$$

Non-bonded part

MOLECULAR DYNAMICS

SIMULATION CONDITIONS

LAMMPS software

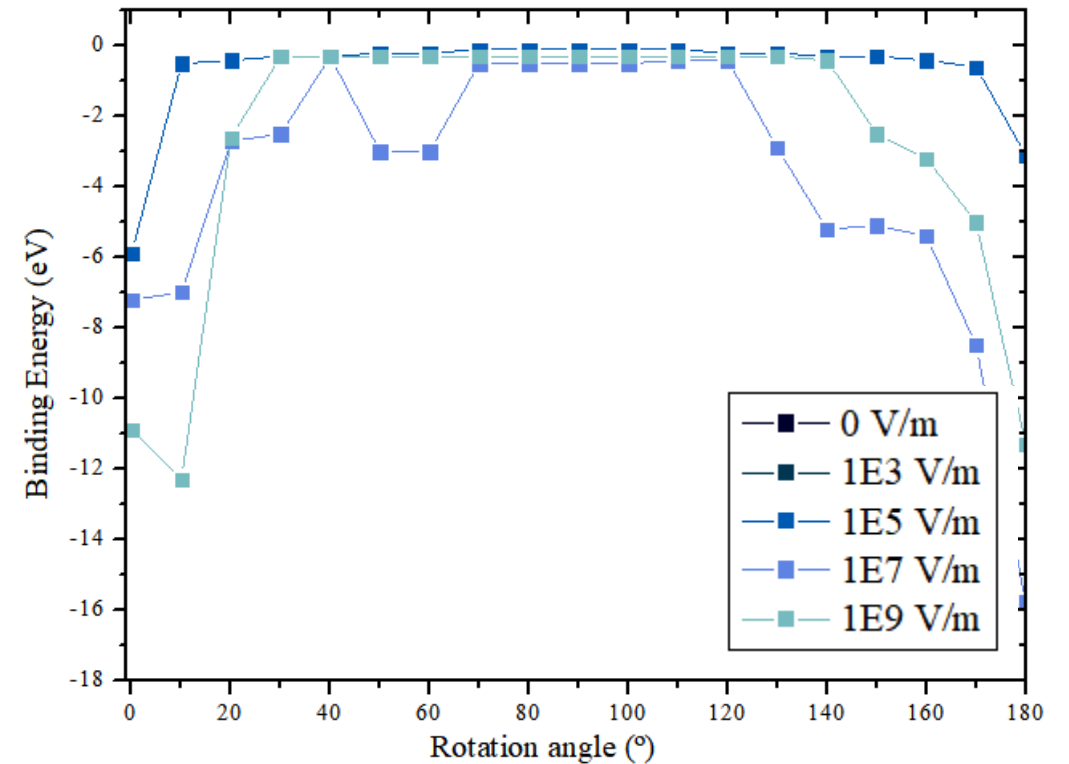
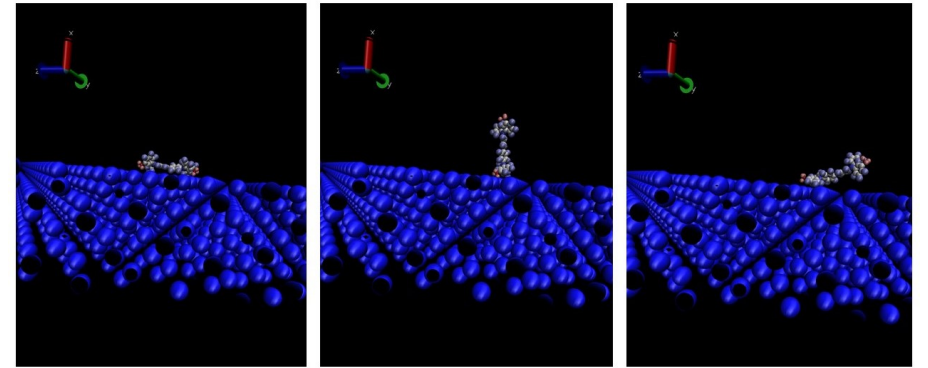
Amber force field

DFT parameters

Much higher electric fields!

10^9 V/m

Results for TPD-Br2



MOLECULAR DYNAMICS

SIMULATION CONDITIONS

LAMMPS software

Amber force field

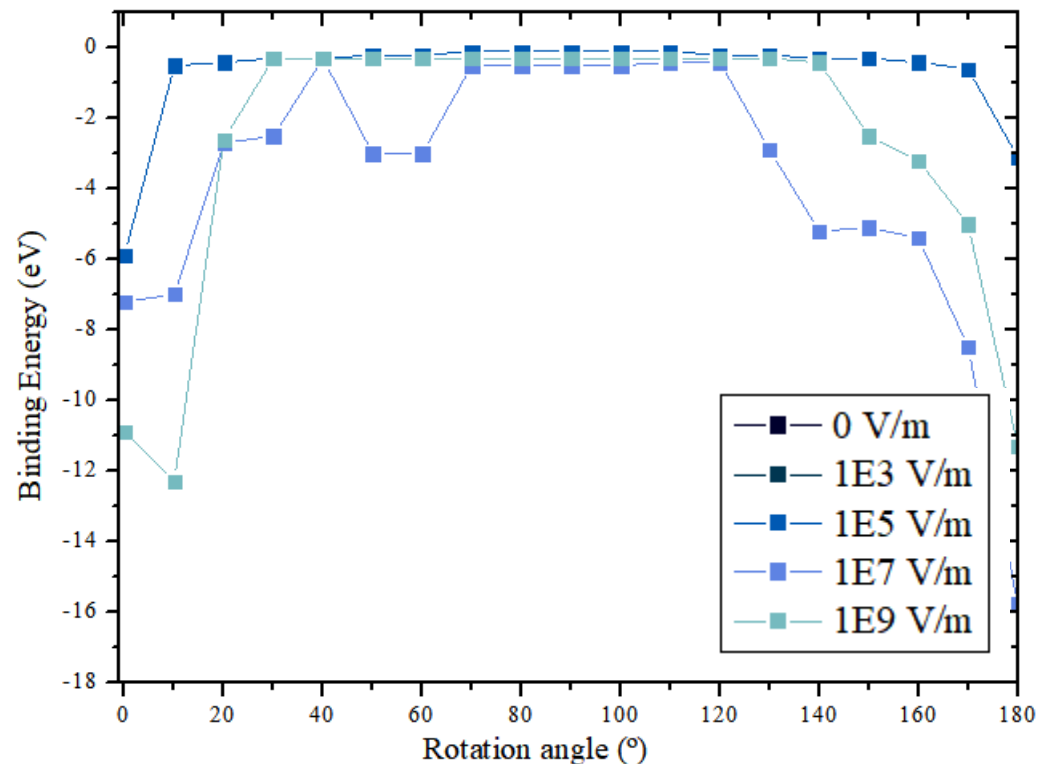
DFT parameters

Much higher electric fields!

10^9 V/m

Access to the behaviour of every single molecule

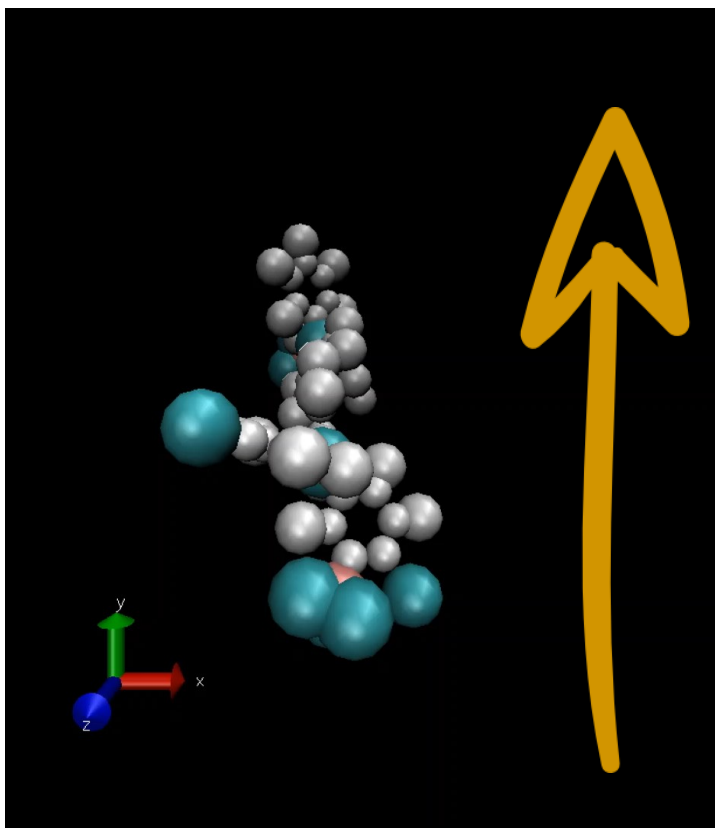
Dipole moment orientation



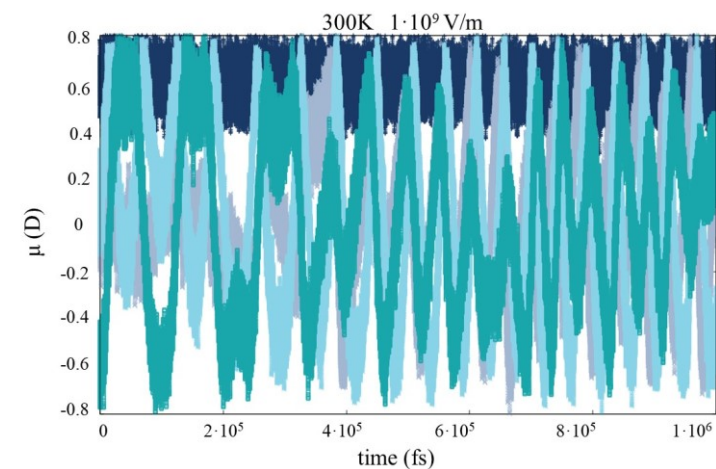
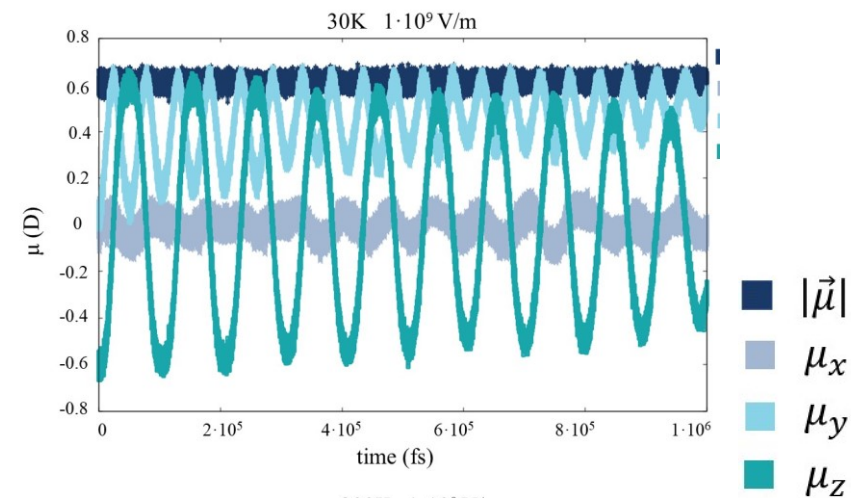
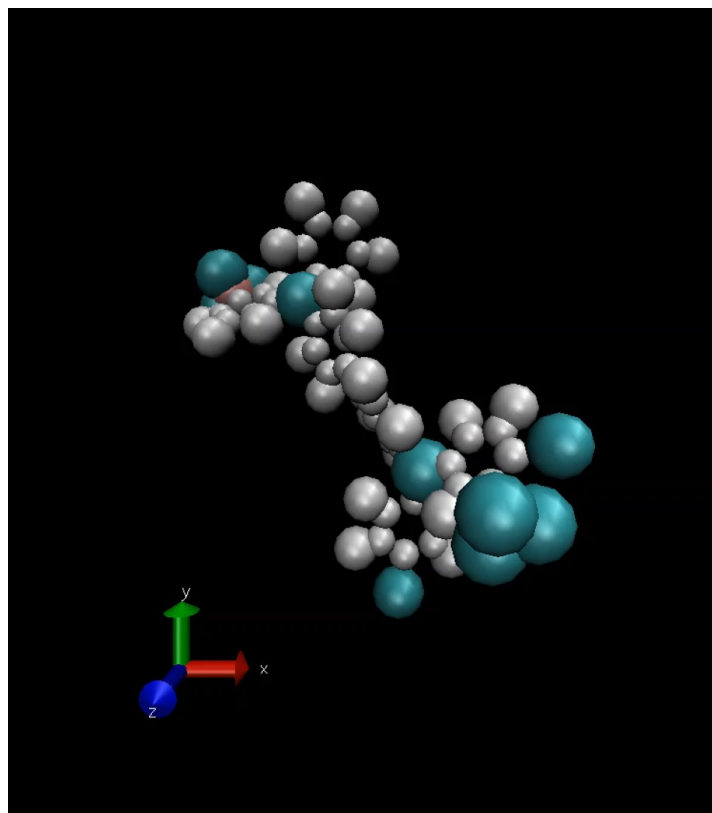
MOLECULAR DYNAMICS

SINGLE MOLECULE - DYNAMICS

30K, $1 \cdot 10^9$ V/m

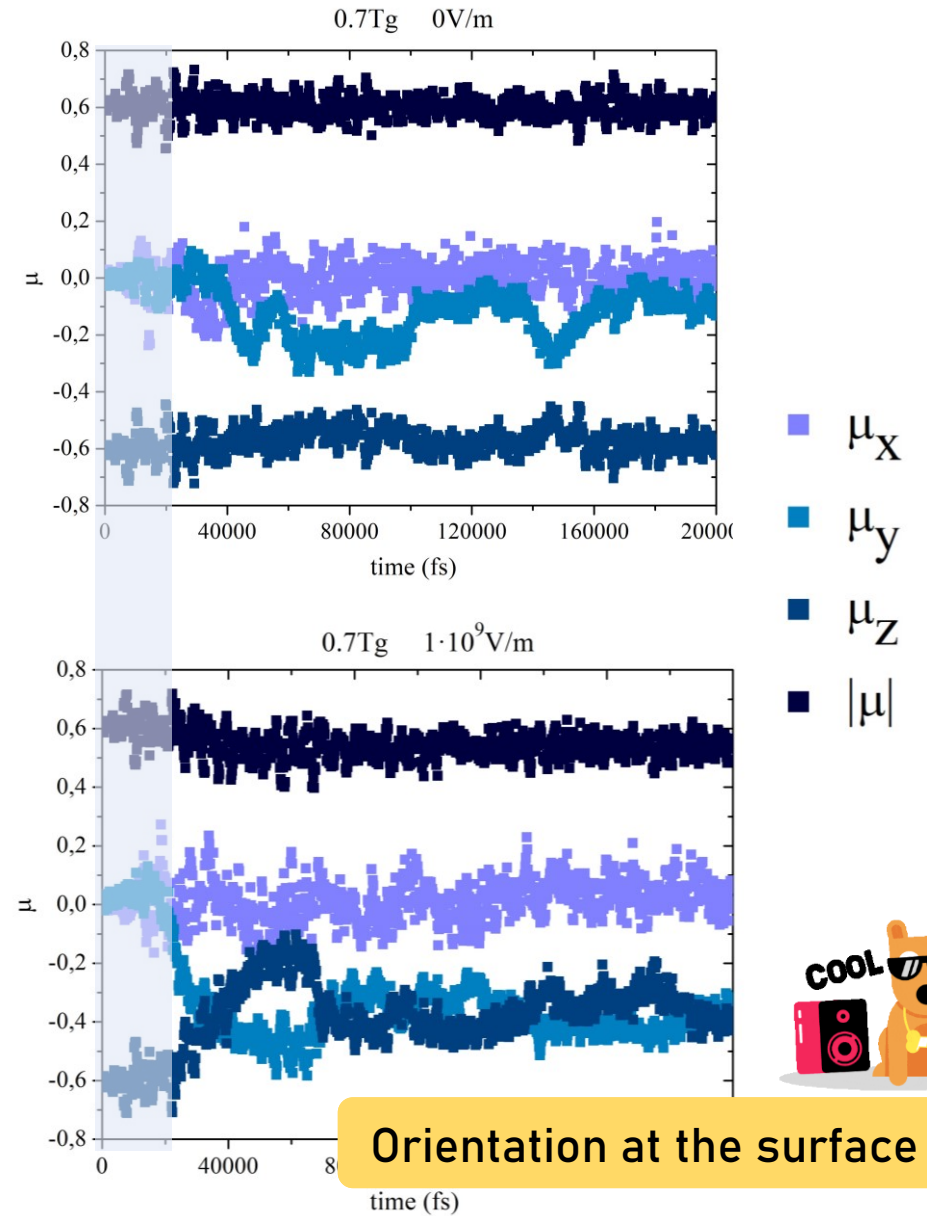
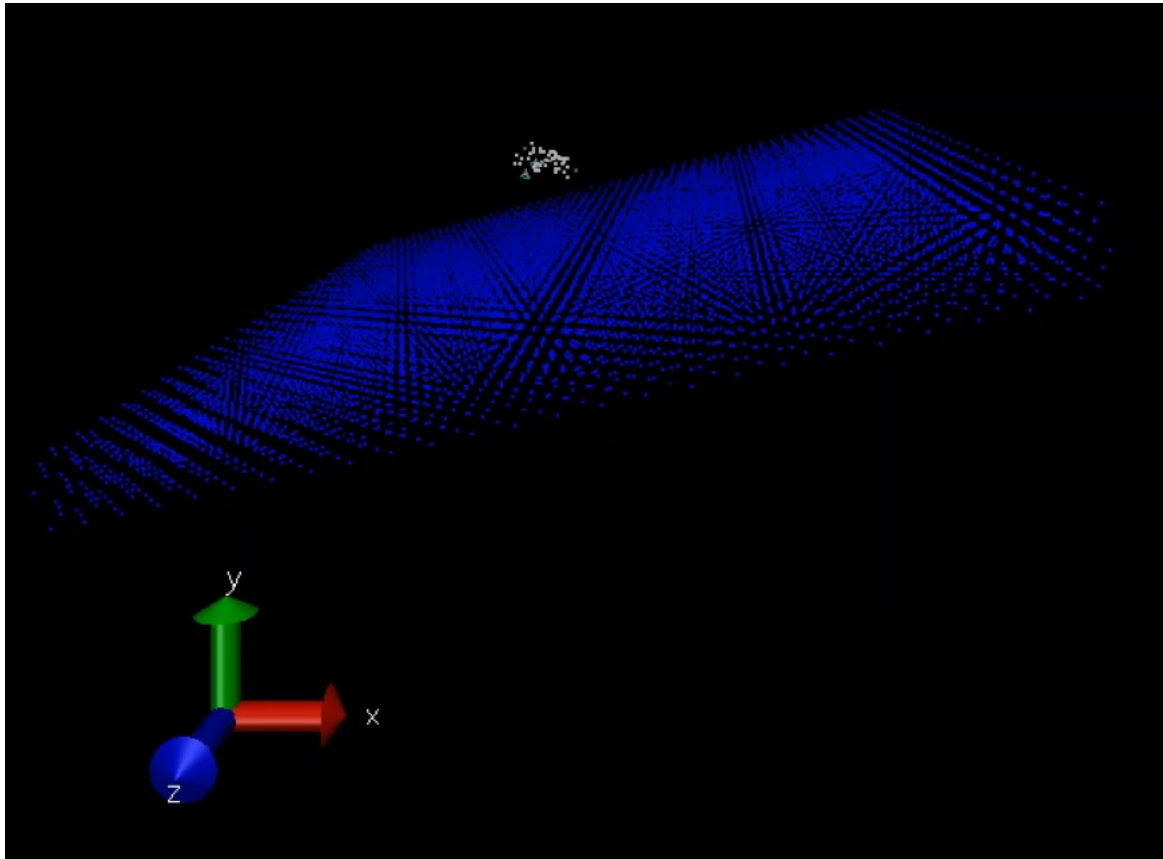


300K, $1 \cdot 10^9$ V/m



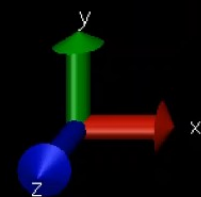
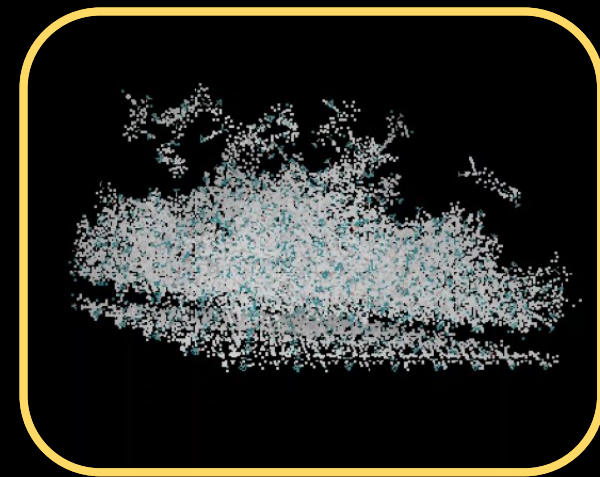
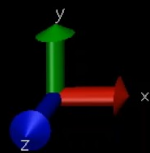
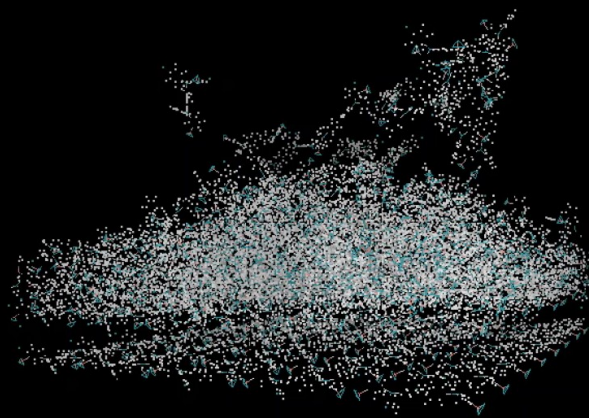
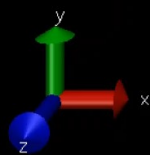
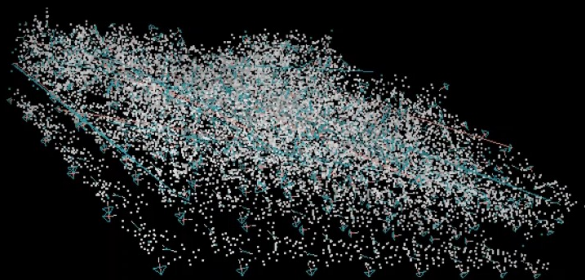
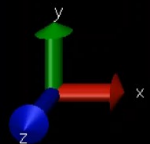
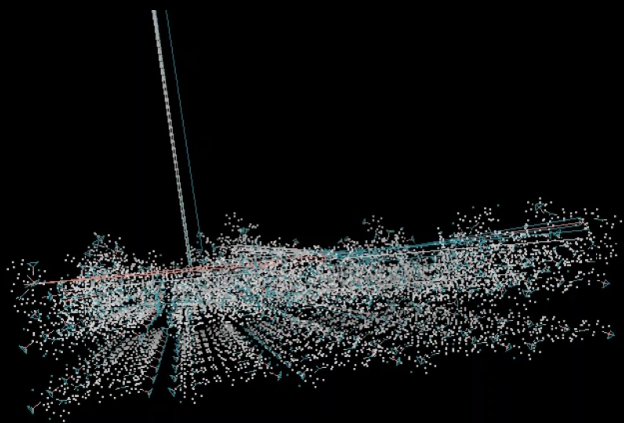
MOLECULAR DYNAMICS

SINGLE MOLECULE - DYNAMICS



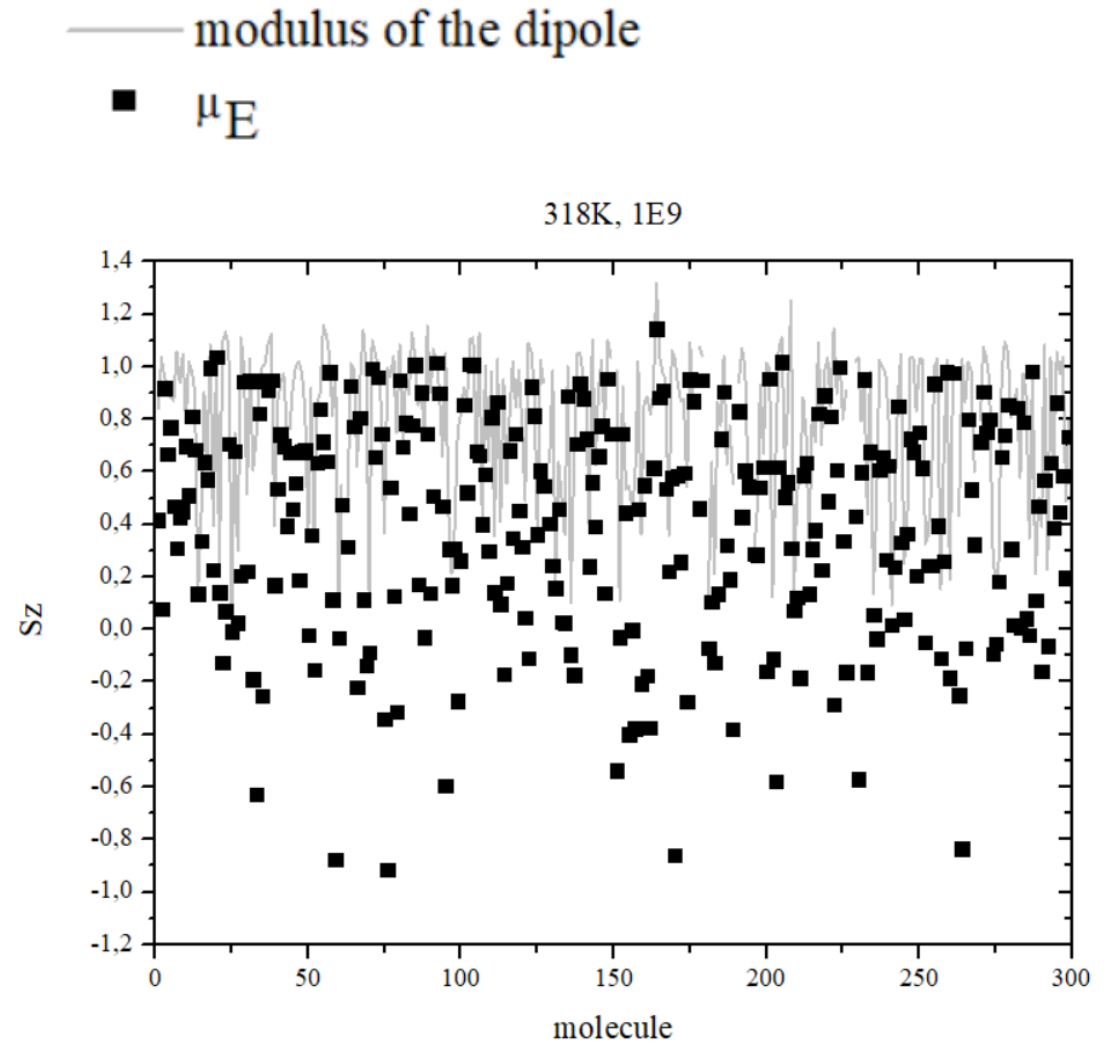
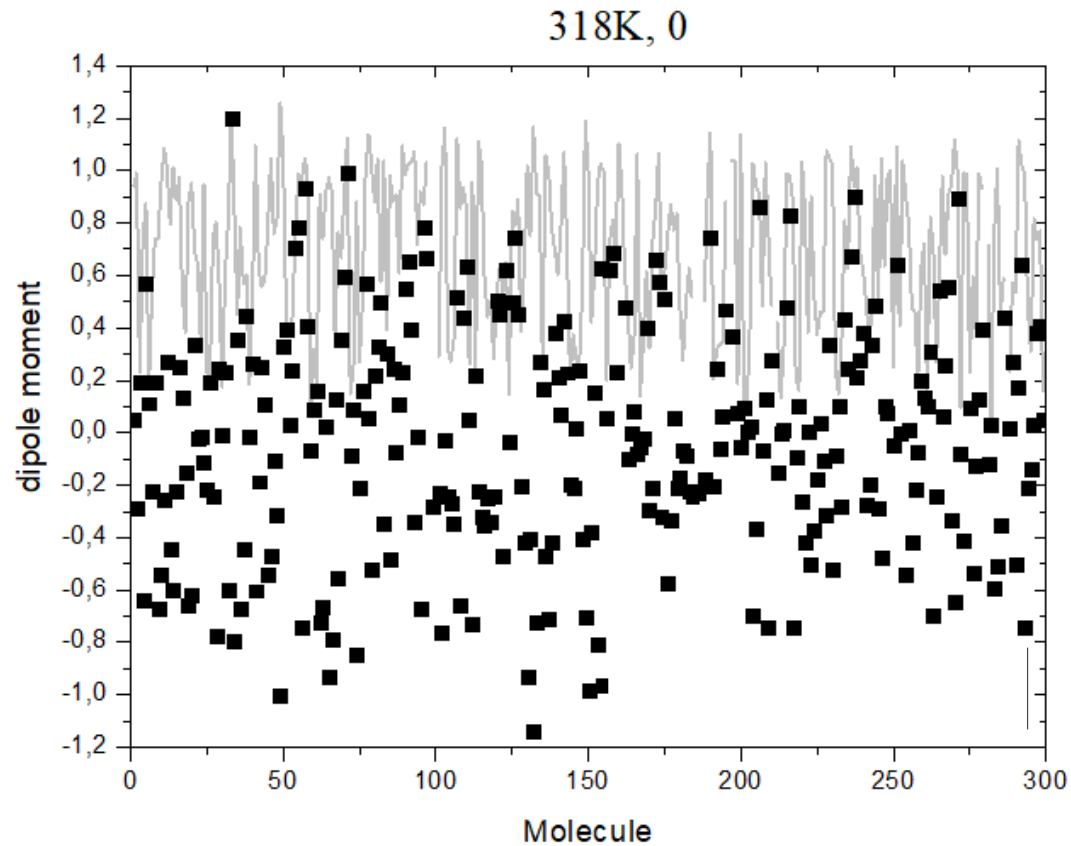
MOLECULAR DYNAMICS

GLASS DEPOSITION



MOLECULAR DYNAMICS

GLASS DEPOSITION – dipole moment



MOLECULAR DYNAMICS

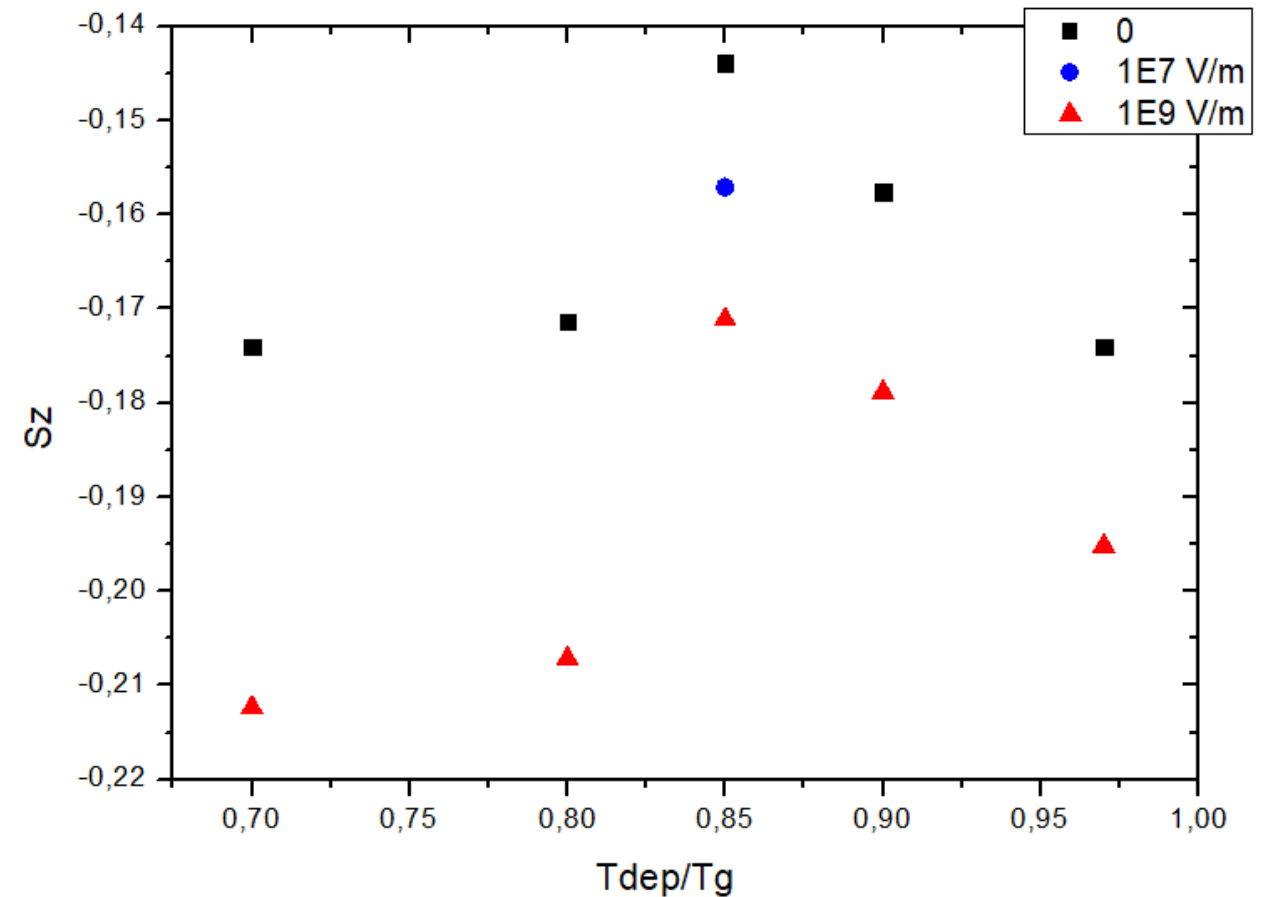
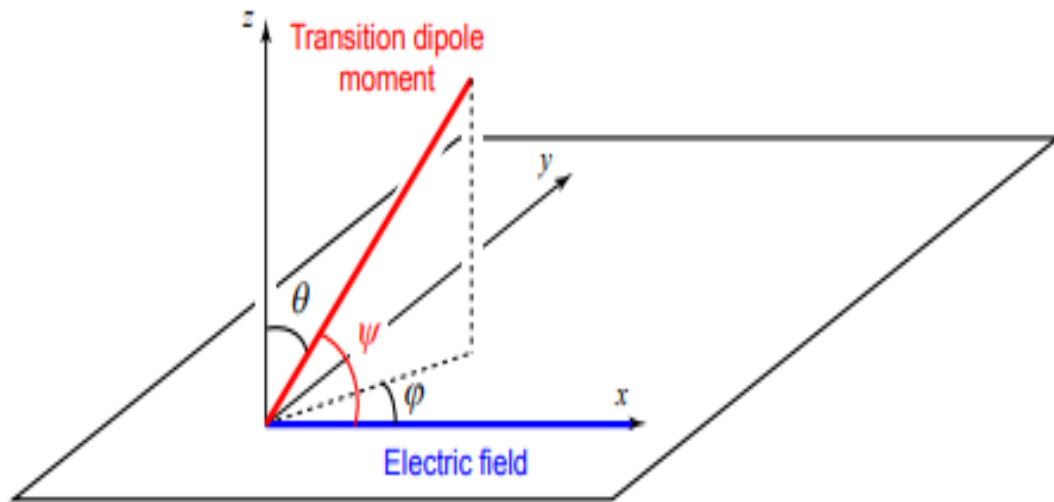
GLASS DEPOSITION - S_z

TPDs have TDM along long axis



More horizontally oriented = S_z more negative

$$S_z = \frac{3 \cdot \langle (\cos \theta)^2 \rangle - 1}{2}$$



A yellow circle with a thin black border, containing the text "THANK YOU FOUR YOUR ATTENTION!" in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font. The background of the slide features several 3D ball-and-stick molecular models of organic molecules, primarily in shades of light blue and light orange, scattered across the white background.

THANK YOU
FOUR YOUR
ATTENTION!

Electric fields for tuning molecular orientation in TPD-modified glasses

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MOLECULAR DYNAMICS

GLASS DEPOSITION

- TPD-Br substrate
- 20 x 15 molecules (28512 atoms)
- $\vec{E} = (0, 0, 10^9)$ V/m
- Thermal procedure to mimic high mobility at Surface
- $t_s = 0,5$ fs

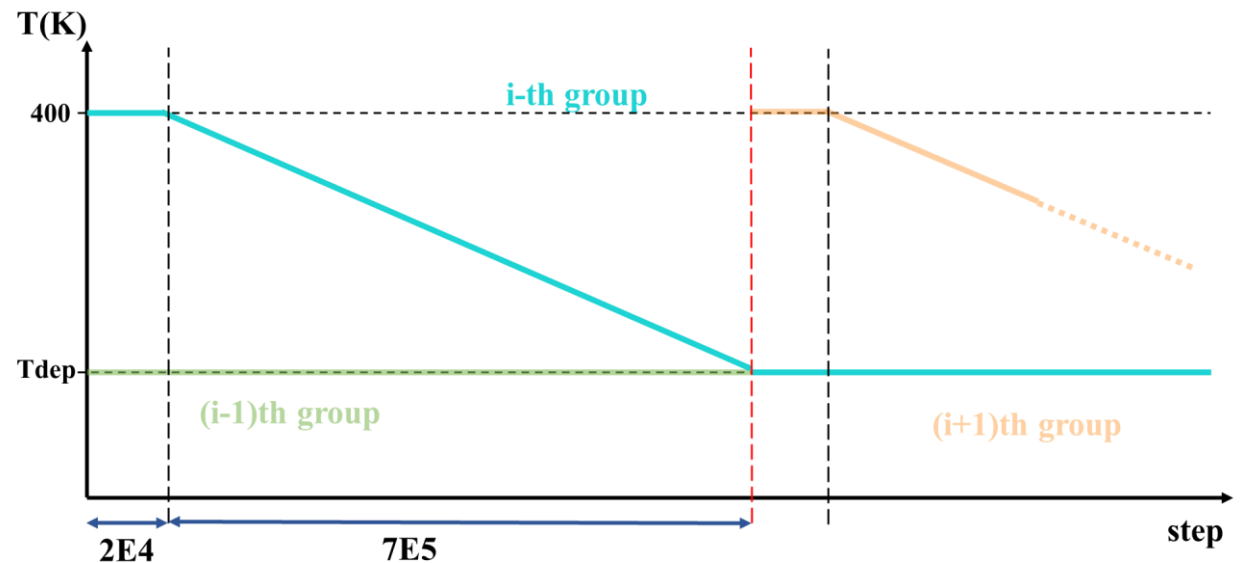


TABLE II. Gas phase Cartesian components of the electric dipole moment μ_i (in Debye) for TPD, α -NPD, TCTA and TPBi molecules before (first rows, labeled as Pristine) and after halogenation.

Pristine	$\mu_x(\pm 0.09\text{D})$	$\mu_y(\pm 0.09\text{D})$	$\mu_z(\pm 0.09\text{D})$
TPD	-0.31	0.26	0.04
α -NPD	-0.23	0.11	0.20
TCTA	-0.01	-0.01	0.00
TPBi	-4.11	-4.55	1.72
after Bromination	$\mu_x(\text{D})$	$\mu_y(\text{D})$	$\mu_z(\text{D})$
TPD	-0.06	4.05	0.12
α -NPD	0.90	-3.31	1.17
TCTA	-1.88	3.20	-0.06
TPBi	-1.77	5.76	1.52
after Chlorination	$\mu_x(\text{D})$	$\mu_y(\text{D})$	$\mu_z(\text{D})$
TPD	-0.08	3.97	0.12
α -NPD	0.93	-3.25	1.15
TCTA	-1.85	3.20	-0.04
TPBi	-1.78	5.76	1.46
after Fluorination	$\mu_x(\text{D})$	$\mu_y(\text{D})$	$\mu_z(\text{D})$
TPD	-0.08	2.49	0.27
α -NPD	1.05	-2.27	0.67
TCTA	-2.66	0.24	-0.02
TPBi	-0.6	5.71	1.76