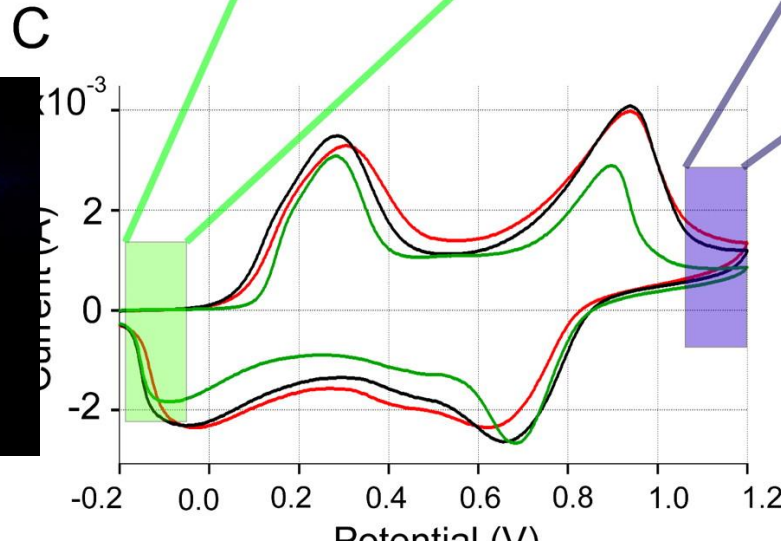
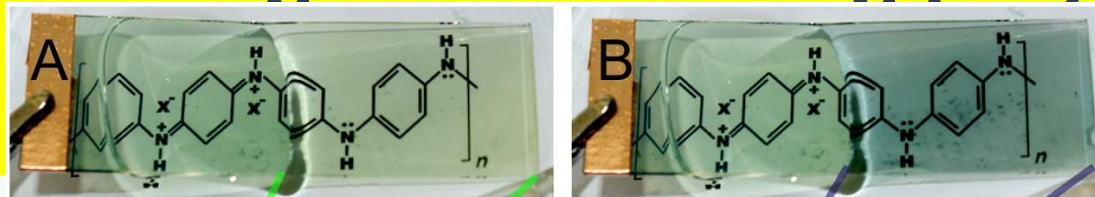


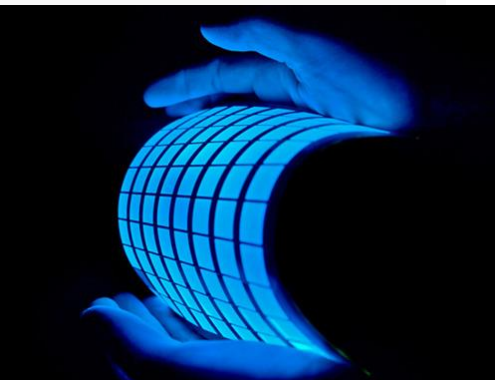
Prof. Dr Rubin Gulaboski

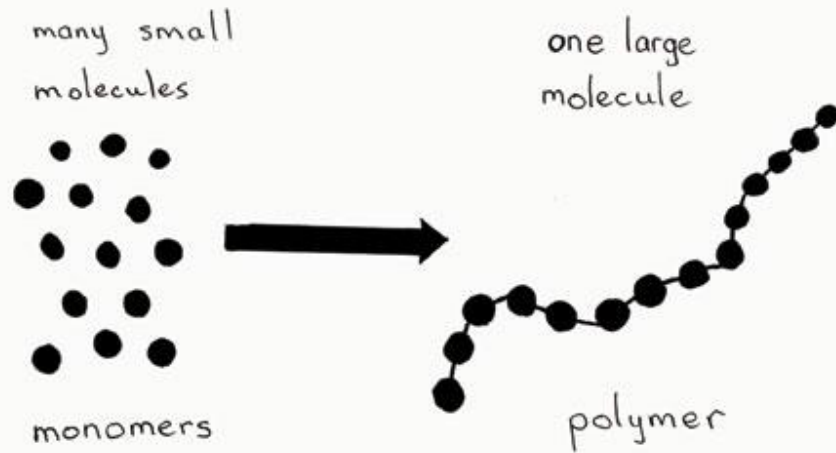
## Voltammetric and Microscopic Methods for characterizing of conducting polymers



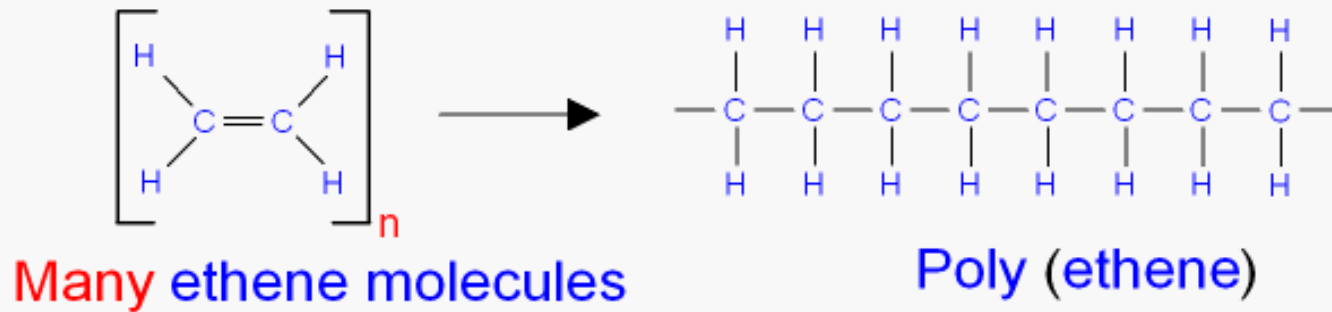
### Dopants

- HCl
- HClO<sub>4</sub>
- p-TSA





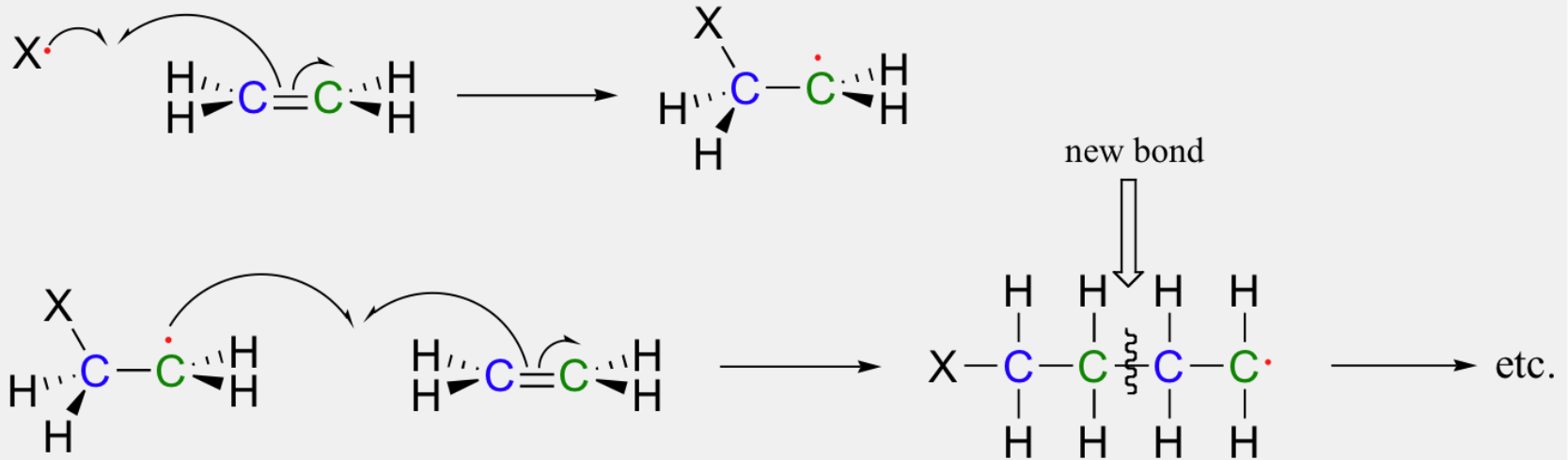
**Polymerisation-process**  
of making large molecules  
from smaller monomers which structure  
repeats along the chain of the polymer



# Mechanism of polymerisation

**-It is a radical reaction!!!**

*propagation*



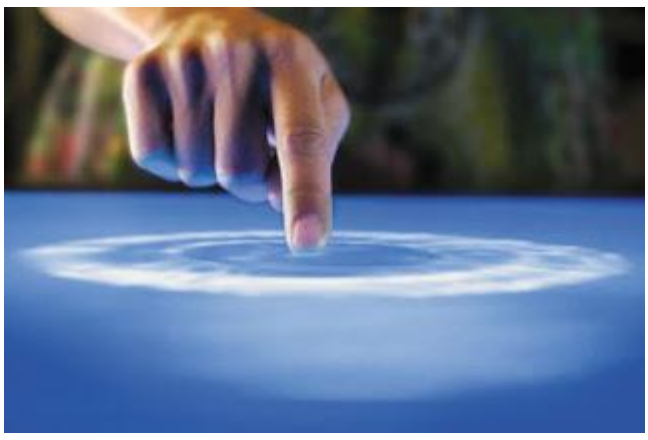
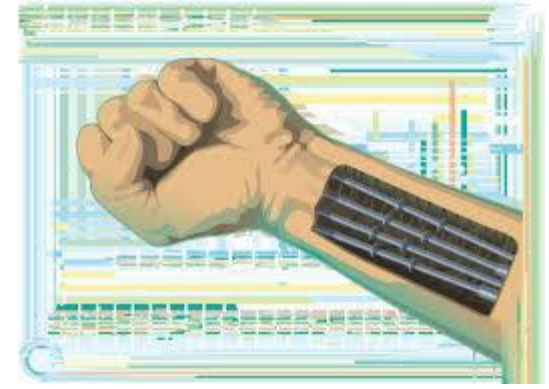
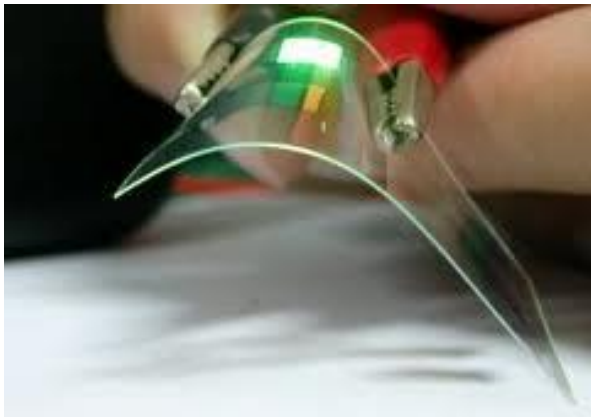
*termination*







# Some Important Applications of polymers

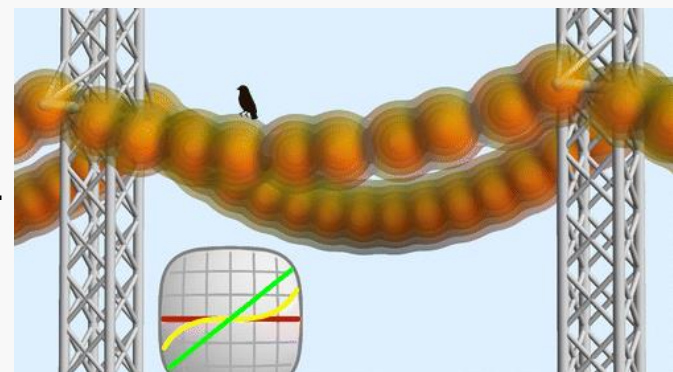




# Electrically conductive plastic

## History of conducting polymers

One has been taught that **plastics do not conduct electricity**. Usually plastics are used as insulation around the copper wires in ordinary electrical cables.



In 1977 three scientists Prof. A. J. Heeger, Prof. A. G. MacDiarmid and Prof. H. Shirakawa **coincidentally** discovered and reported conductive properties of the alternating-bond conjugated polymers (Polyacetylene). They found that the polymer could be (n- or p-) doped to the metallic state and thereby transformed into a good electrical conductor.



PHOTO: ROLAND S. LINDSFROM

Alan G. MacDiarmid

Professor at the University of Pennsylvania,  
Philadelphia, USA.

Hideki Shirakawa

Professor Emeritus,  
University of Tsukuba, Japan.

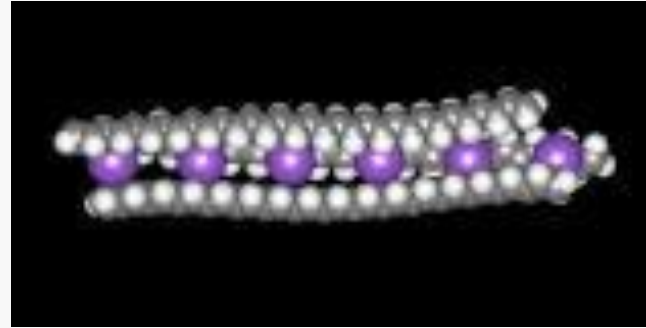
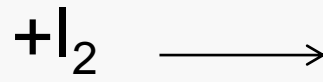
Alan J. Heeger

Professor at the University of California  
at Santa Barbara, USA.

Photo acknowledged from report of Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2000

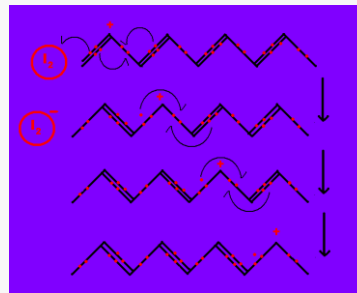
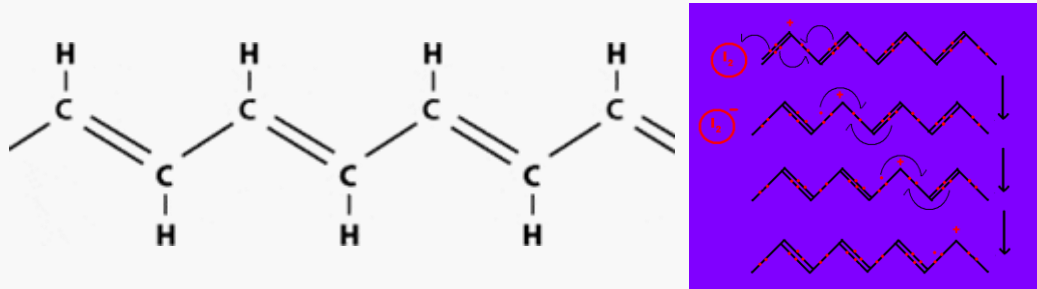
\* Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2000 being awarded to Profs. A. J. Heeger, A. G. MacDiarmid and H. Shirakawa (MacDiarmid A.G., "Synthetic metals: A novel role for organic polymers (Nobel Lecture)", *Angewandte Chemie, International Edition* **40**, 2581-2590, 2001)

Polyacetylene created with Ziegler catalyst dopped by iodine gives conductive polyacetylene polymer

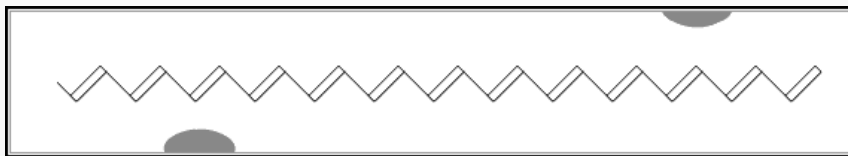


# Conducting polymers

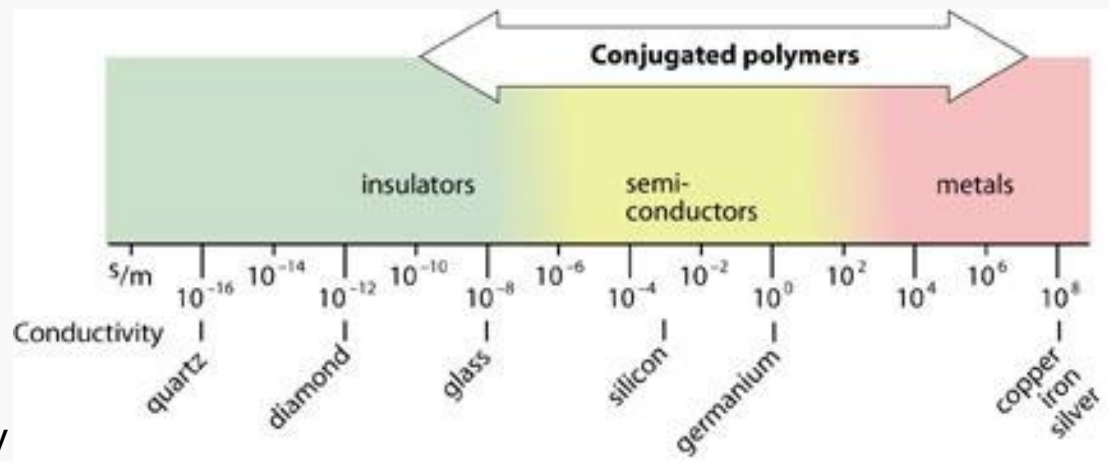
Polymers are molecules formed of many identical units (monomers) bound to each other. **For a polymer to be electrically conductive it must "imitate" a metal – the electrons in the bonds must be freely mobile and not bound fast to the atoms.** One condition for this is that the polymer consists of alternate single and double bonds, termed conjugated double **bonds**:



Example: Oxidation of Polyacetylene with iodine causes the electrons to be jerked out of the polymer, leaving "holes" in the form of positive charges that can move along the chain, thus leading to opening of a band gap and causes (semi)conductivity. (Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2000)

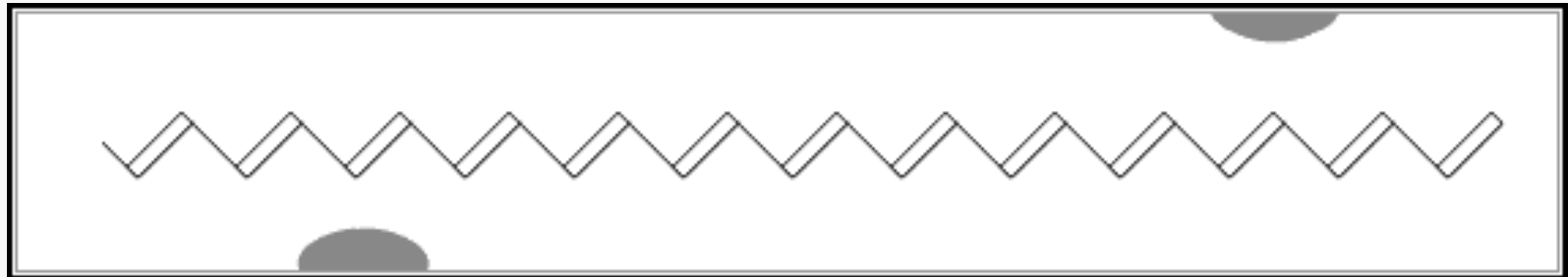
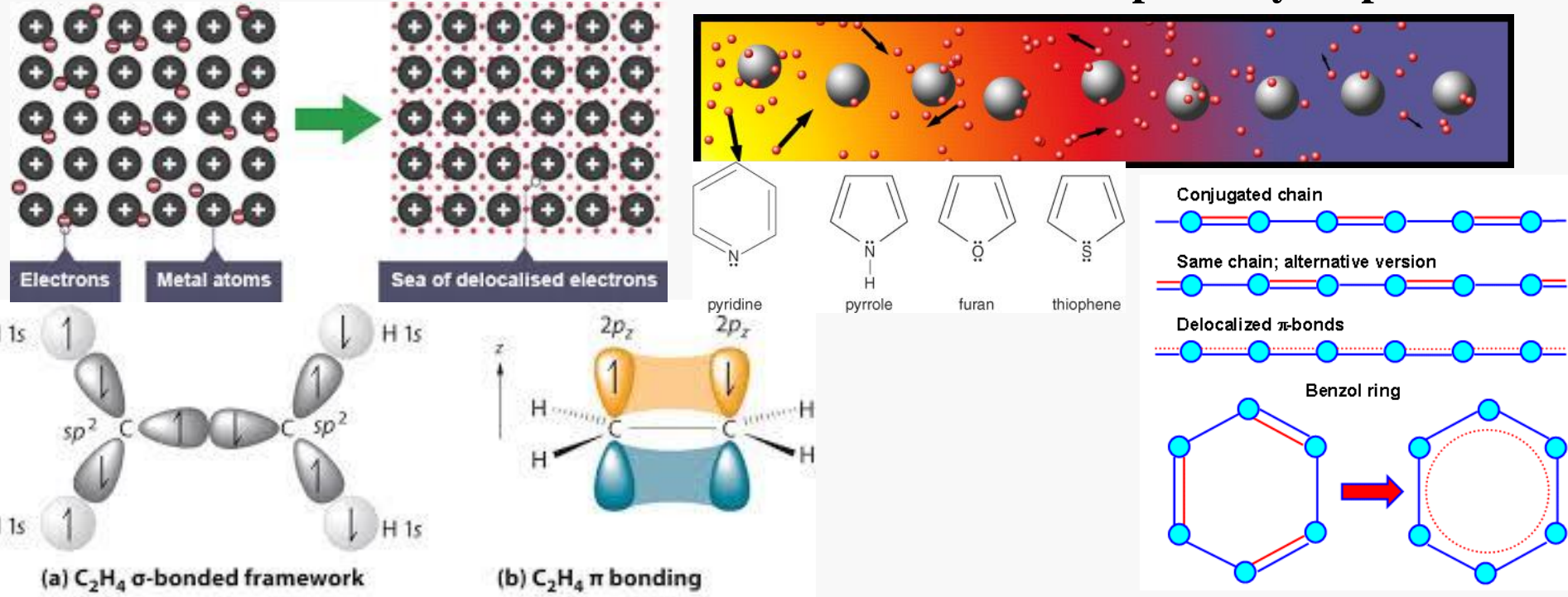


- low weight
- conductivity can be varied over a very broad area, from poor semi-conductors to metallic-level conductivity
- Excellent tolerance to corrosion
- large, flexible surfaces can be made relatively easily and cheaply





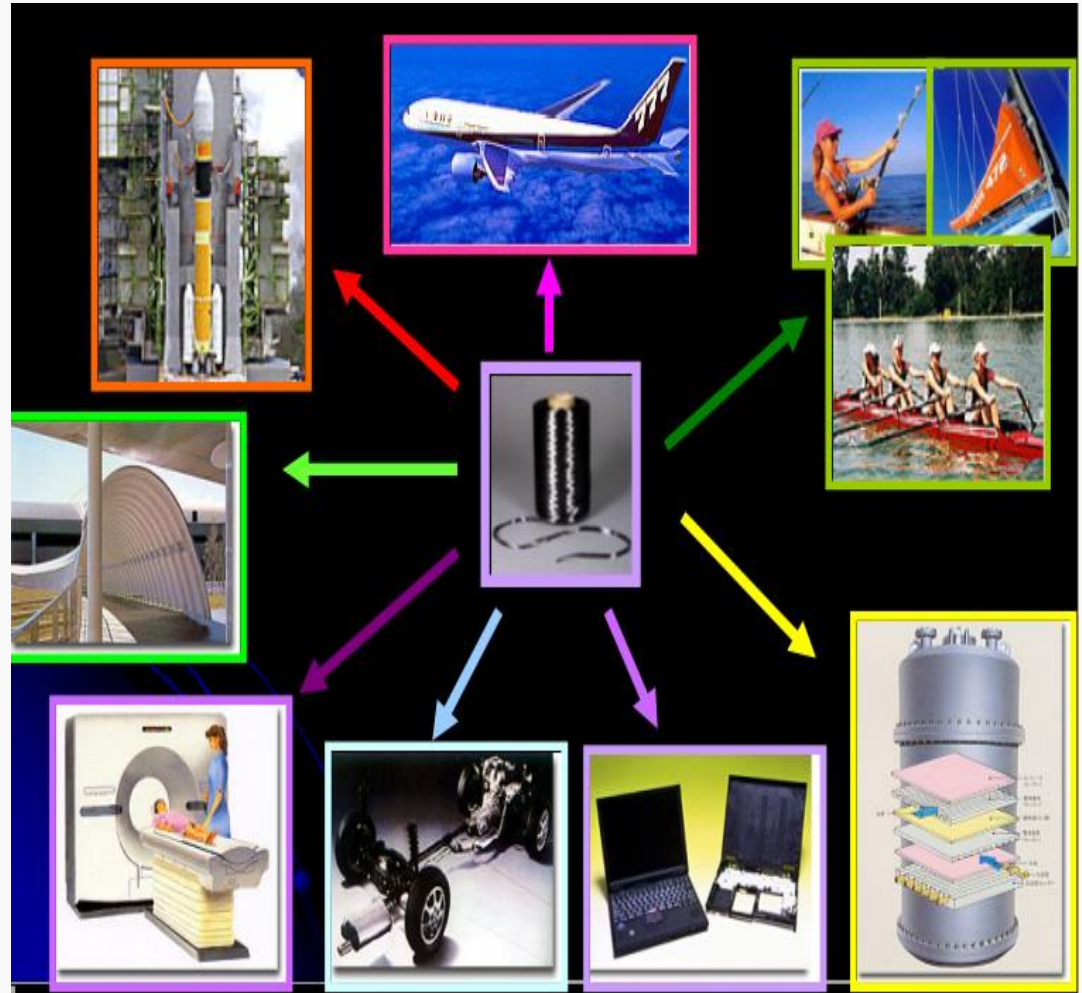
Conducting polymers have backbones of contiguous  $sp^2$  hybridized carbon centers. One valence electron on each center resides in a  $p_z$  orbital, which is orthogonal to the other three sigma-bonds. The electrons in these delocalized orbitals have high mobility, when the material is "doped" by oxidation, which removes some of these delocalized electrons. Thus the p-orbitals form a band, and the electrons within this band become mobile when it is partially emptied.



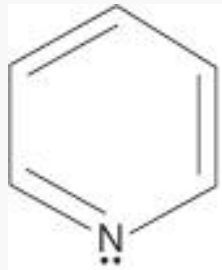
# Conducting Polymers



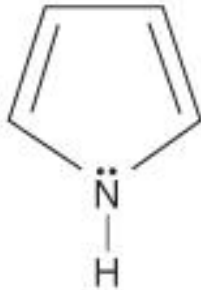
- ④ Energy storage  
(batteries, **supercapacitors**)
- ④ Electrochromic devices  
(smart Windows, mirrors, IR and microwave shutters)
- ④ Antistatic coatings  
(displays, flat TV screens)
- ④ Semiconductor devices  
(Solar Cells)
- ④ Corrosion Protection
- ④ Mechanical actuators
- ④ Bio applications  
(drug delivery systems, artificial muscles, biosensors)



# Monomers that are suitable for Synthesis of conducting polymers



pyridine



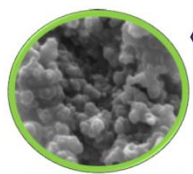
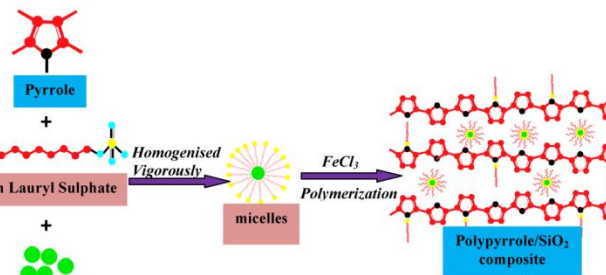
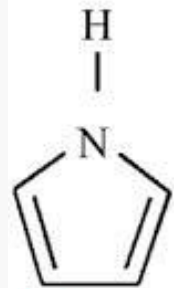
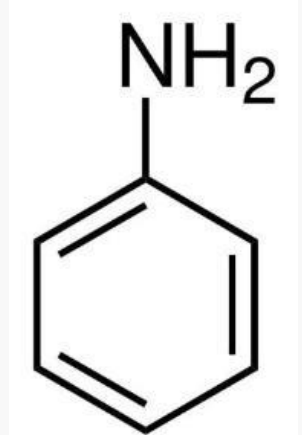
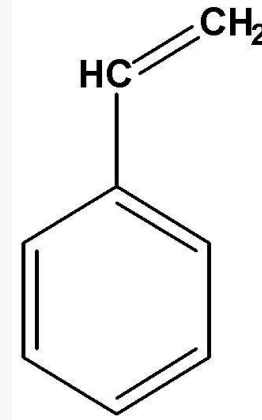
pyrrole



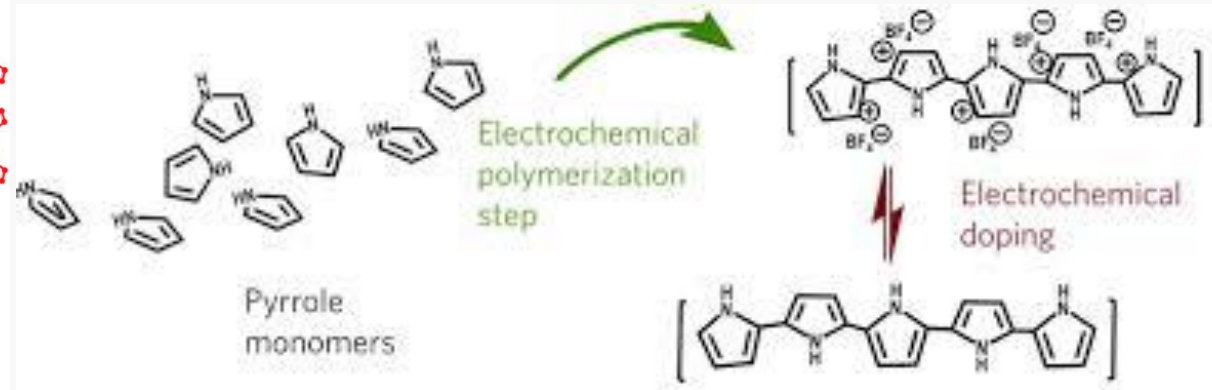
furan



thiophene

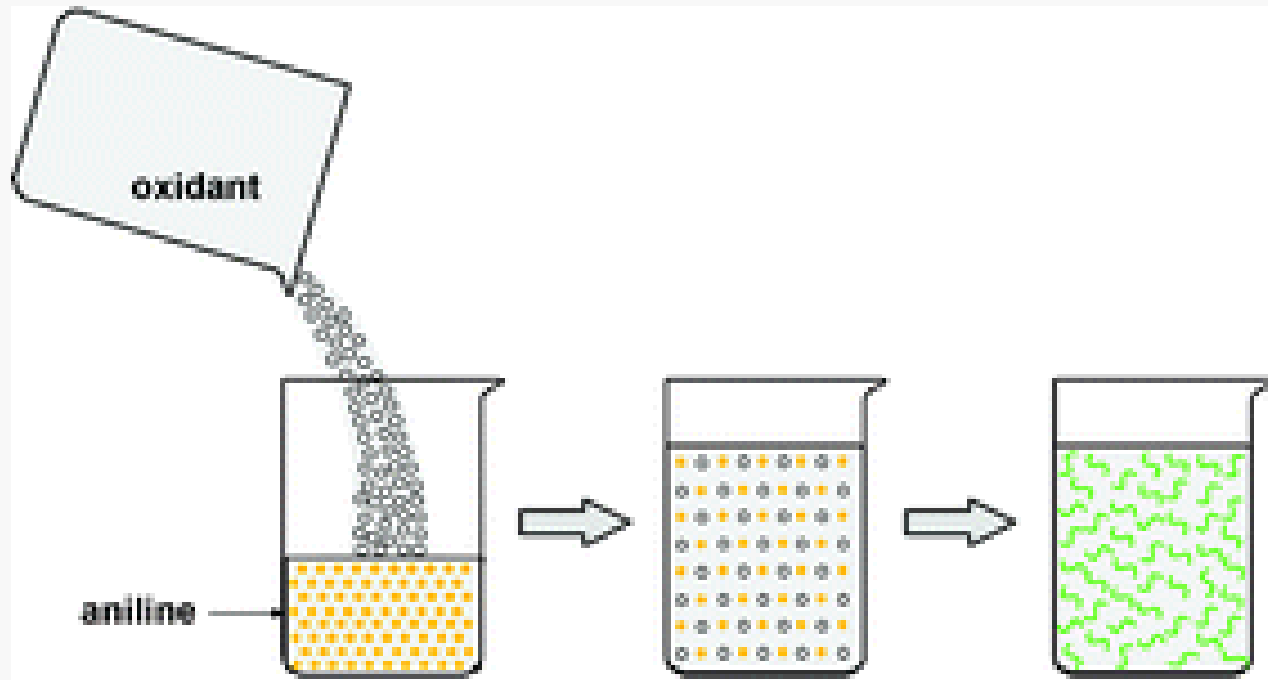


SEM image of composite



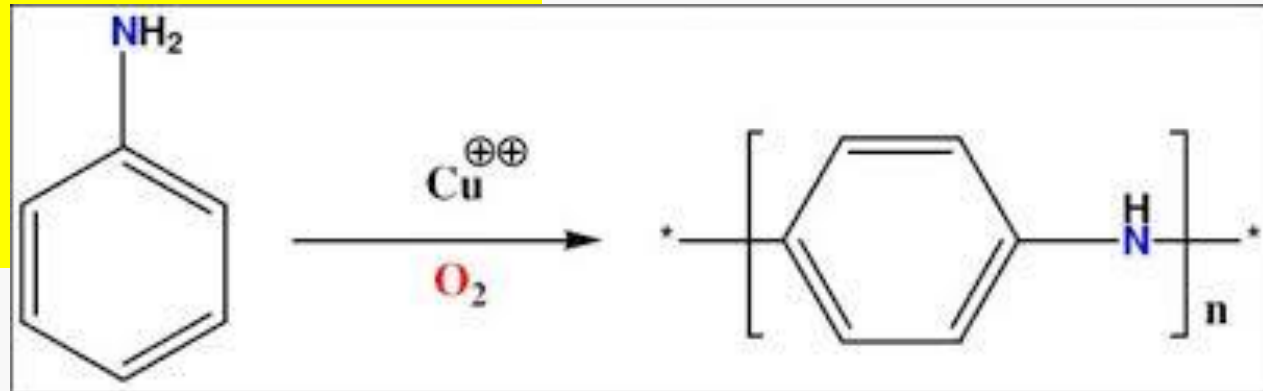


# Chemical synthesis of conducting polymers

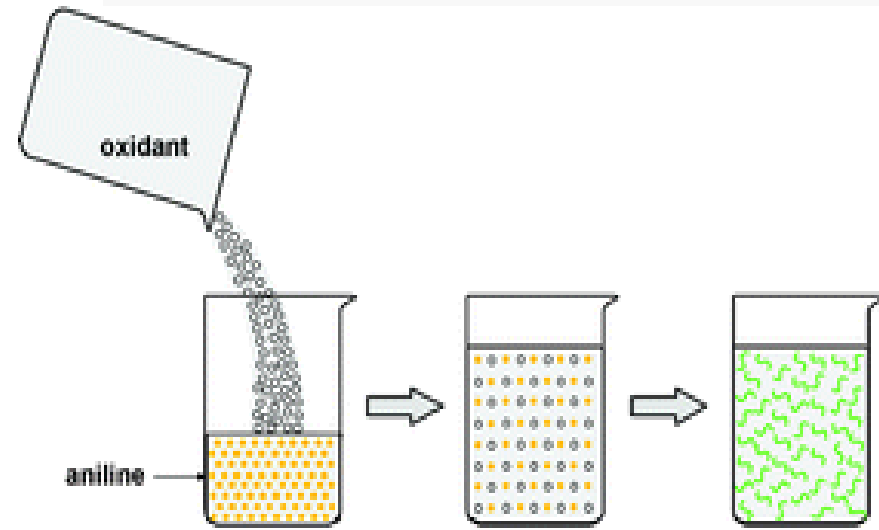
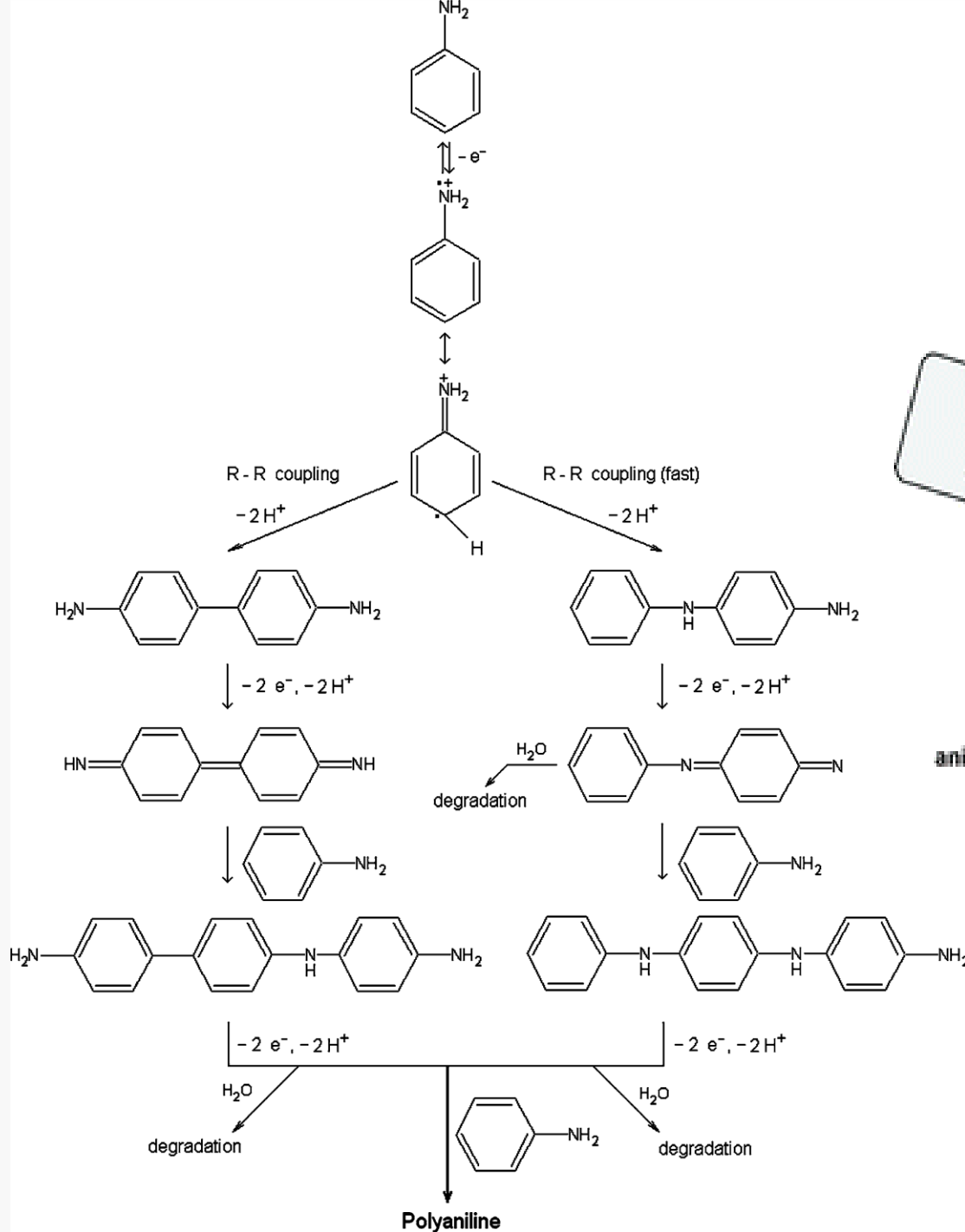


## Conditions on which polymerization depends:

- concentration of oxidant
- pH
- nature of electrolyte
- temperature
- time



# Oxidation of aniline Synthesis of polyaniline-PANI

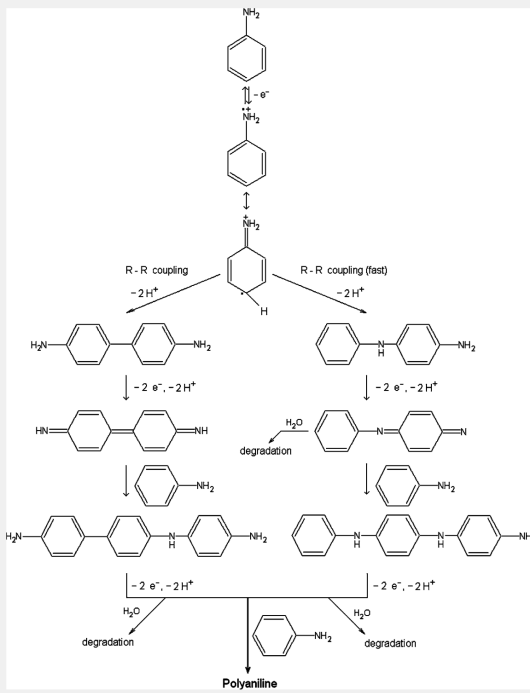


# Problems that can arise by chemical polymerization method

-kinetics of polymer formation not easy to control

-side radical reactions

-mixture of polymers can be created



-structure of the polymer can not be uniform (role of intercalated ions, processes of co-polymerization...)

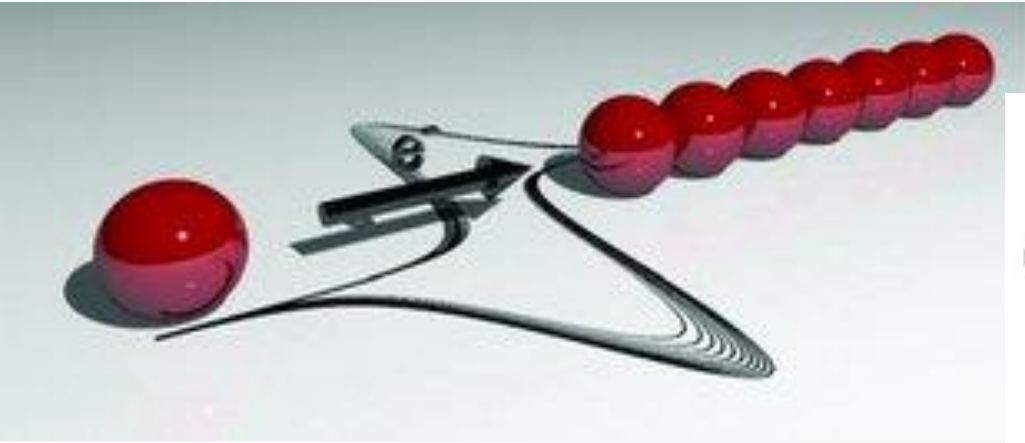
....

Suitable method for massive production of polymers

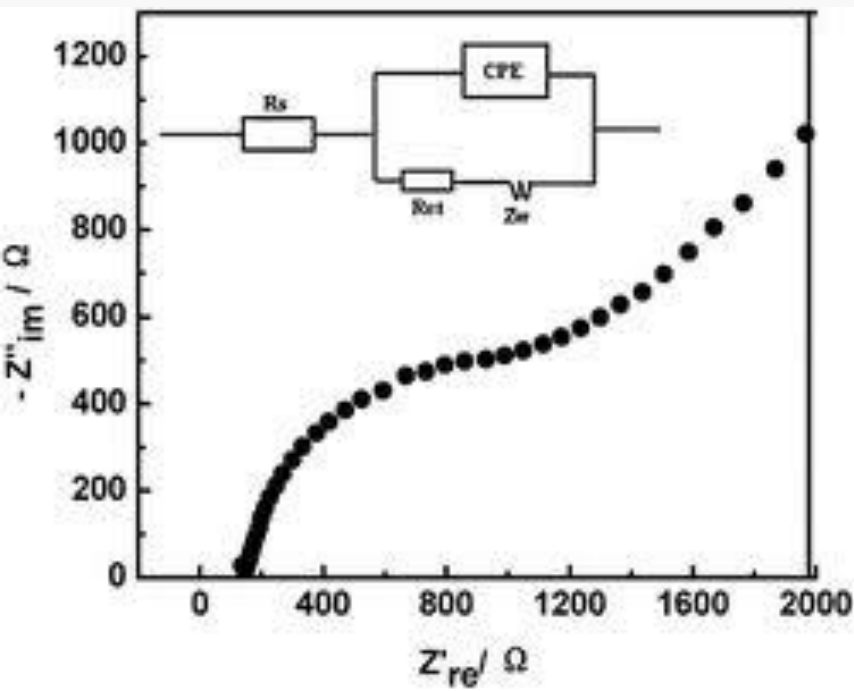
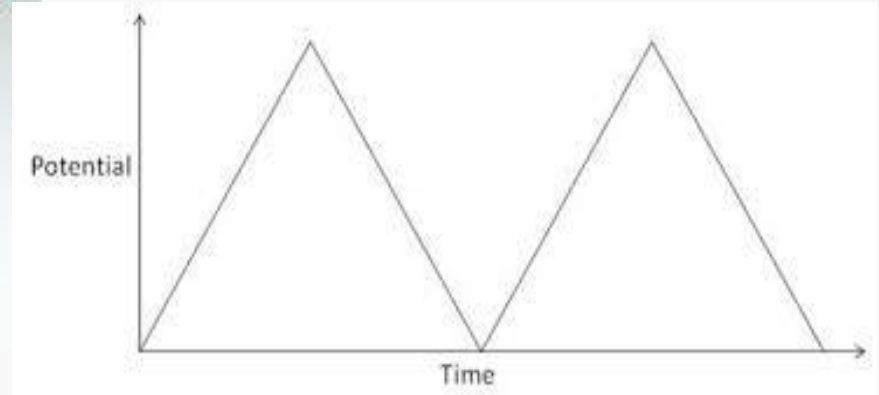
-for the sake of electrochemistry-a better way is the  
**ELECTROCHEMICAL POLYMERIZATION METHODOLOGY**



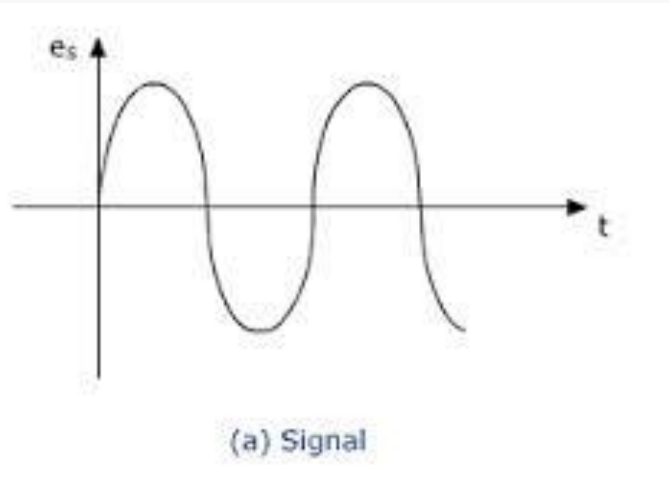
# Electrochemical techniques for studying the features of the conductive polymers



## CYCLIC VOLTAMMETRY

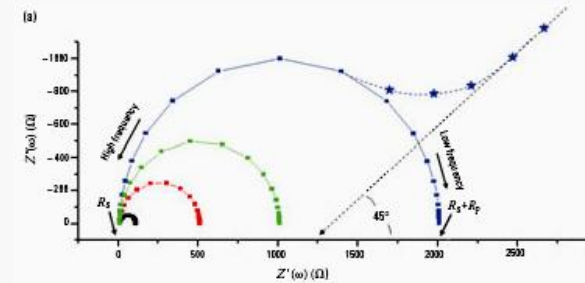
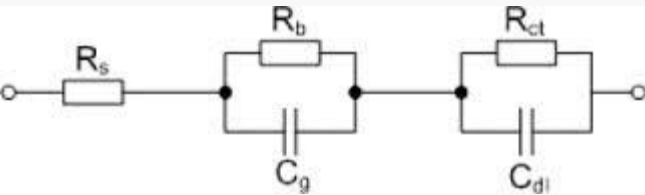


## ELECTROCHEMICAL IMPEDANCE SPECTROSCOPY-EIS



# Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy

## Spectroscopy



(AC) The excitation signal, expressed as a function of time, has the form

$$E(t) = E_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

In a linear system, the response signal,  $I_t$ , is shifted in phase ( $\Phi$ ) and has a different amplitude

$$I(t) = I_0 \cos(\omega t - \Phi)$$

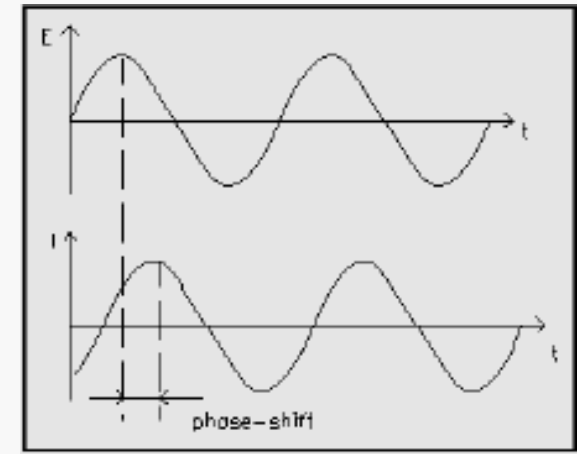
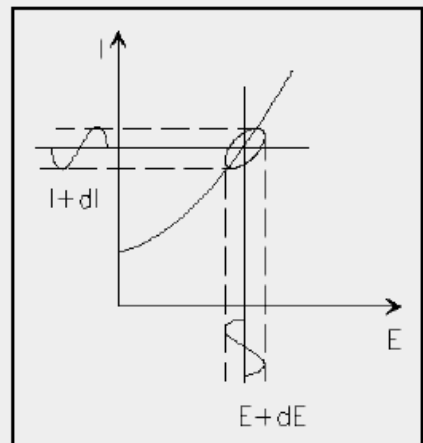
DC ohms law  
 $R = E/I$



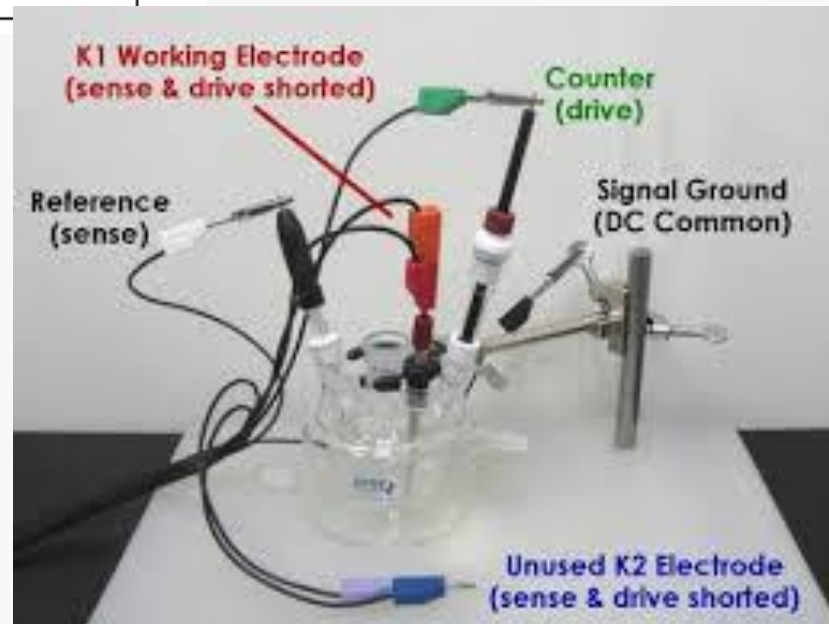
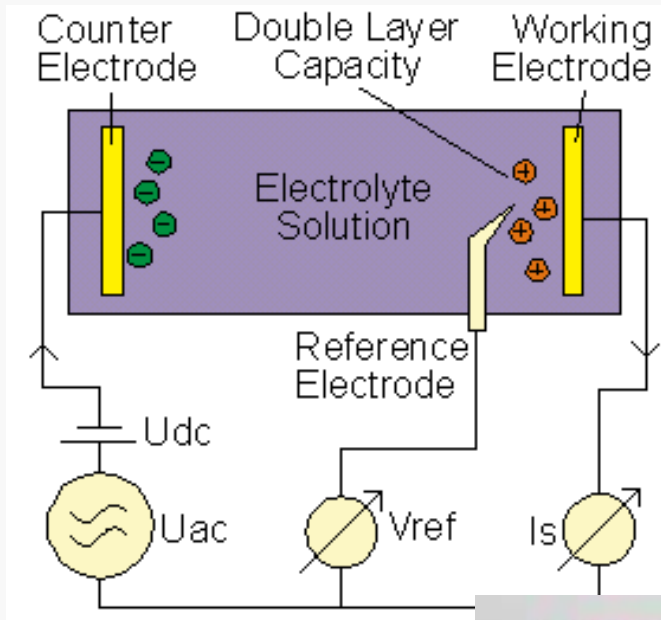
$$Z = E(t) / I(t) = Z_0 [\cos(\omega t) / \cos(\omega t - \Phi)]$$

Using EULER'S relationship  
 $\exp(j\Phi) = \cos\Phi + j\sin\Phi$

$$Z = Z_0(\cos\Phi + j\sin\Phi)$$



# Common three-electrode cell are used in both techniques -a very simple set-up





# Cyclic voltammetry provides basic information on the...

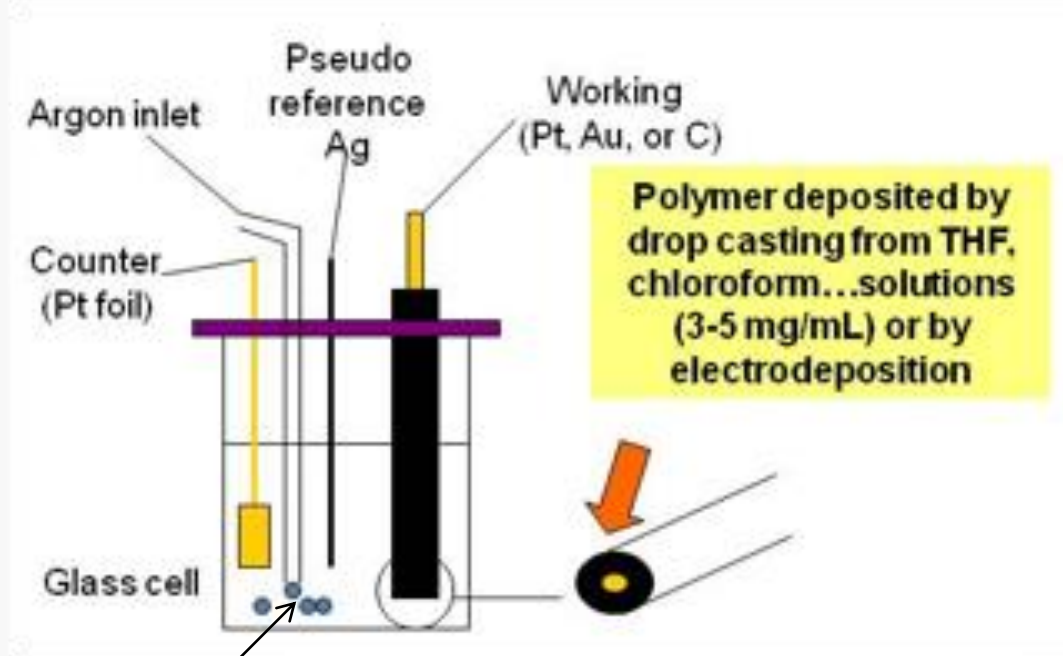
-oxidation potential of the monomers,

- on film growth,

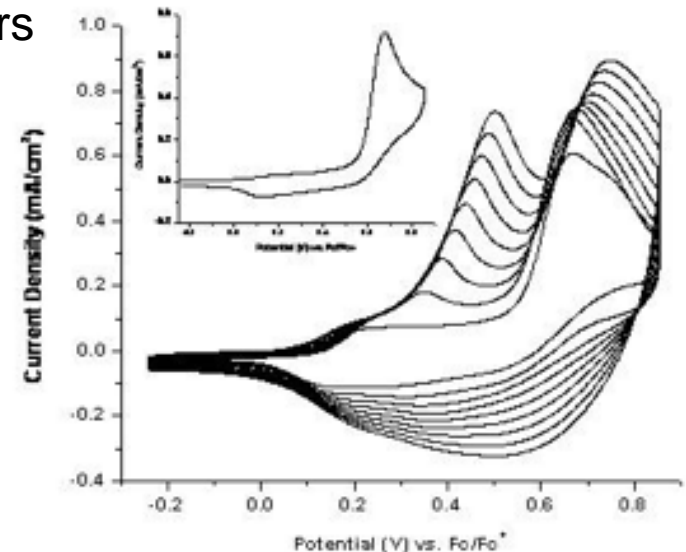
-on the redox behavior of  
- the polymer,

and on the

-surface concentration  
(charge consumed by the polymer).

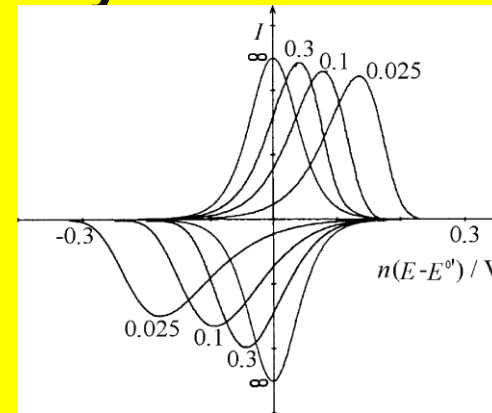


monomers



# Conclusions can also be drawn from the cyclic voltammograms regarding the

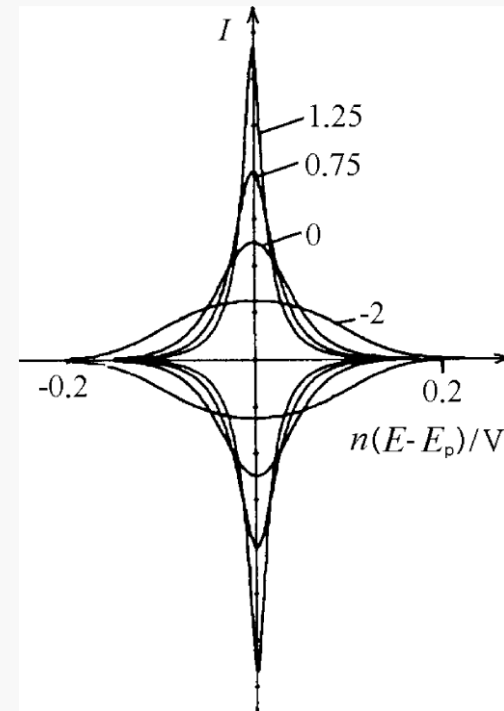
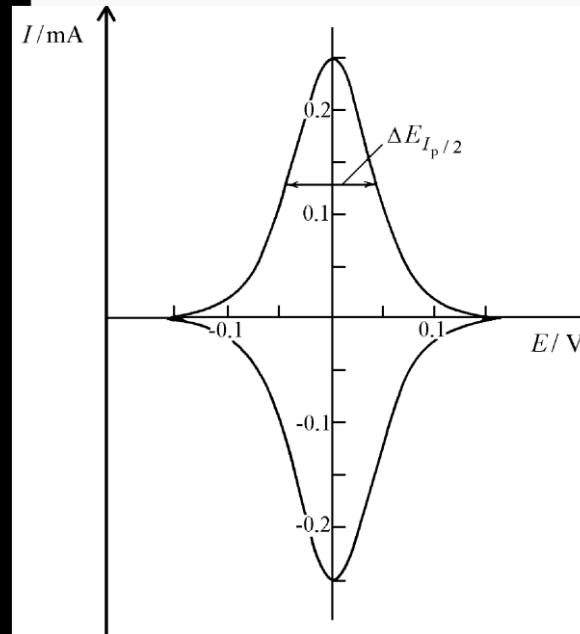
- rate of charge transfer
- charge transport processes, and the
- coupled chemical reactions...



- interactions that occur within the polymer segments, at specific sites and between the polymer and the ions and solvent molecules.

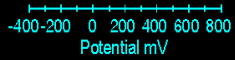
Cyclic voltammogram of hydroxy-ferrocene.

-400 -200 0 200 400 600 800  
Potential mV



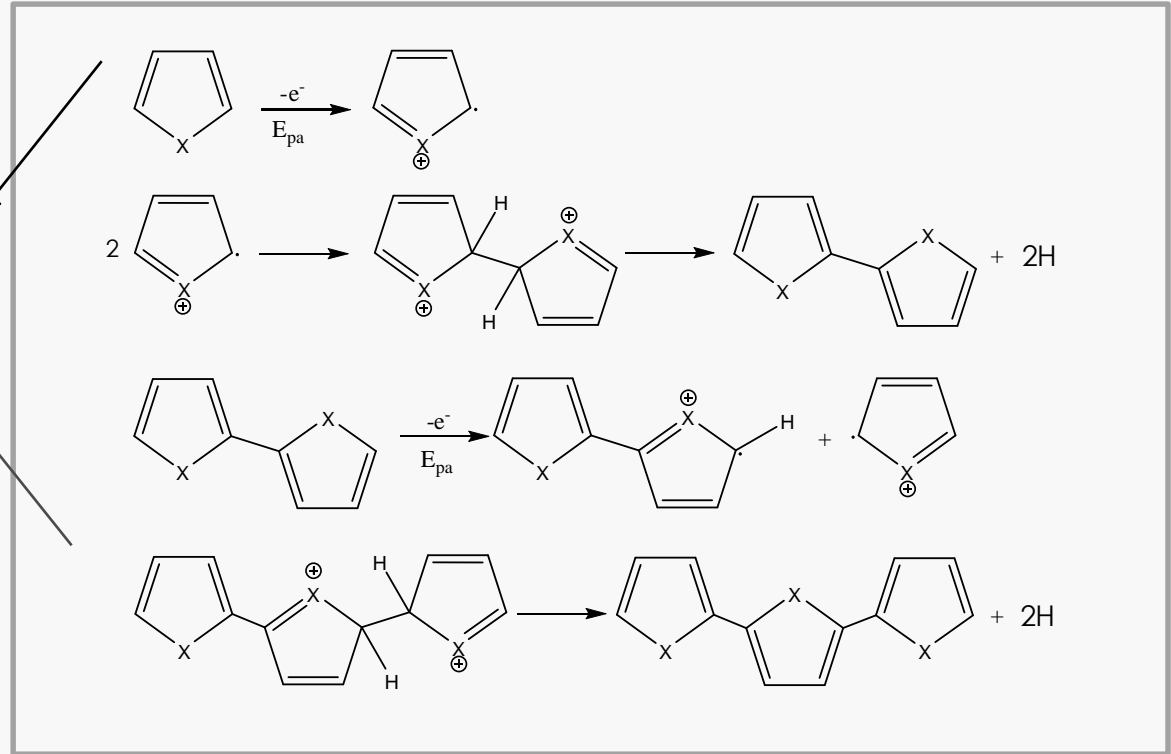
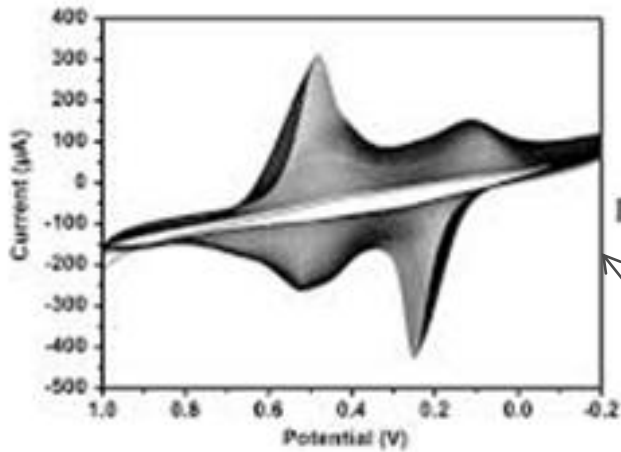
# Cyclic Voltammetry (CV)

Cyclic voltammogram of hydroxy-ferrocene.

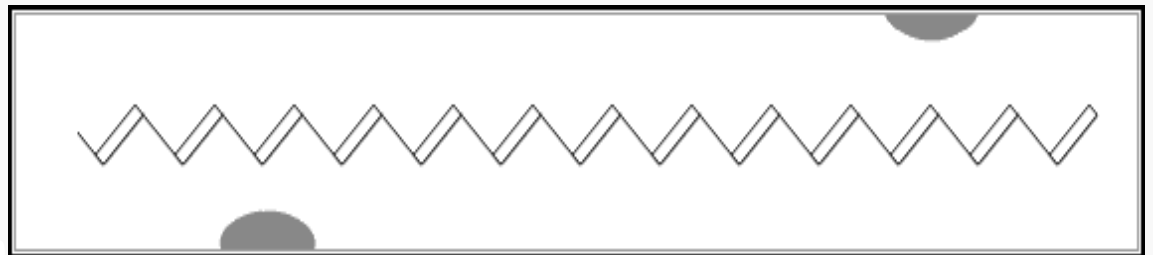


doping; reduction or oxidation.  
Oxidation leaves "holes" in the form of positive charges that can move along the chain

## Polymer Electrogrowth



## Monomer Free



extremely useful for studying  
electrode reaction mechanisms  
& electropolymerization

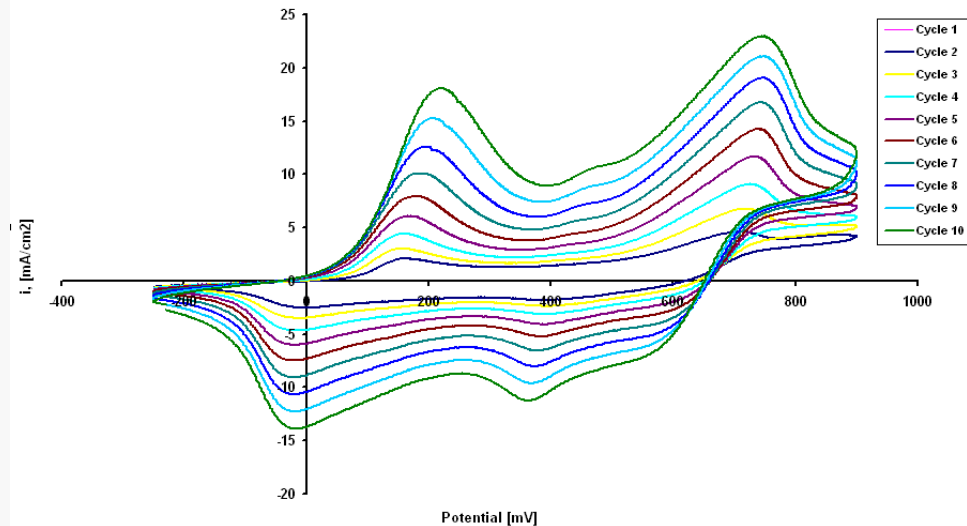
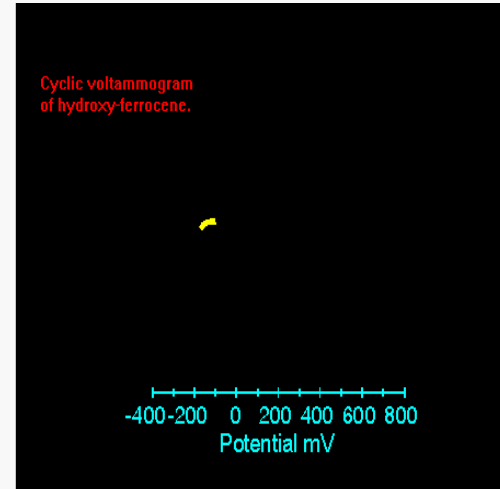


Electropolymerization



# FACTOR AFFECTING THE POLIMERIZATION PROCESS AND THE STRUCTURE OF THE POLYMER FILM

- scan rate
- initial and final potential
- repetitive cyclization
- type of the electrode material
- type of the supporting electrolyte
- pH of the solution
- temperature
- presence of co-adsorbants...



# Cyclic voltammetry and Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy can provide a big range of valuable results

-kinetic parameters

-thermodynamic parameters

-insight into the redox transformation (redox mechanism)

-insight into the influence of the various parameters used in the system studied

-insight into the chemical reactions occurring in the process of electropolymerization

-insight into the polymer growth

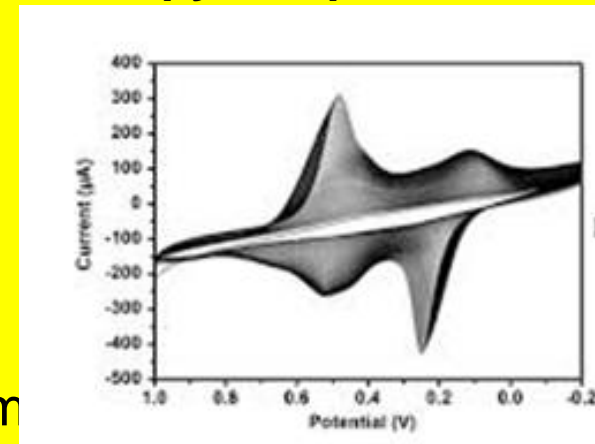
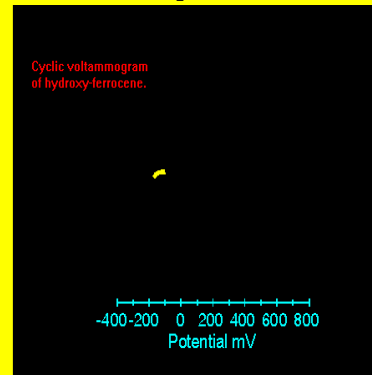
...

...

But,

**Both techniques can not give us a visual impression of the structure of the polymer film**

...they must be coupled by highly sophisticated microscopic Techniques in order to get complete characterization of the polymer film., i.e. Atomic Force Microscopy and Scanning Electron Microscopy



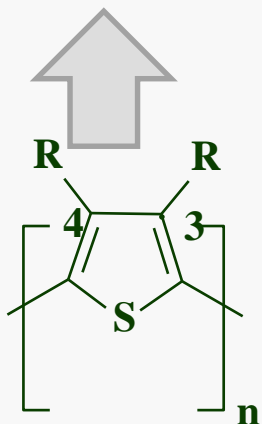
# EXAMPLE: Electrochemical and microscopic study of the behavior of conductive polymers- Poly(3,4-alkylenedioxythiophene) Derivatives

LONGER CONJUGATION LENGTH

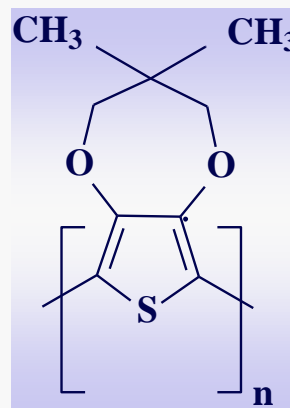
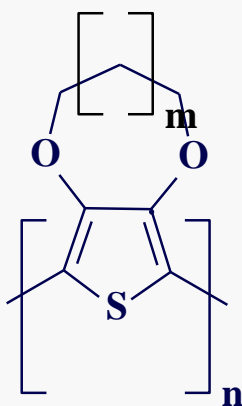
MORE ORDERED POLYMERS

STABLE OXIDIZED FORM

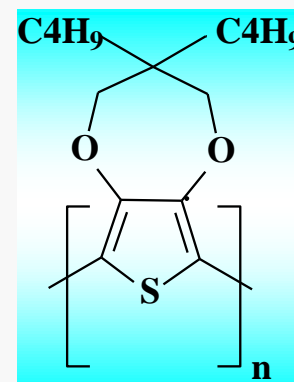
LOW  $E_{ox}$



Poly(3,4-dialkylthiophene)



ProDOT-(Me)<sub>2</sub>



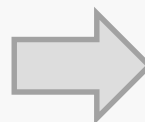
ProDOT-(Bu)<sub>2</sub>

Substitution at the 3- and 4- positions

CONDUCTIVITY

STERIC INTERACTIONS

INCREASING DEGREE OF CONJUGATION



# ELECTROCHEMICAL EXPERIMENTS

## Cyclic Voltammetric (CV) Coating:

10 mM ProDOT-(Bu)<sub>2</sub> in  
0,1 M NaClO<sub>4</sub>/ACN & Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>/ACN  
at diff.scan rates (mV s<sup>-1</sup> )  
0,0 V – 1,6 V

## Electrochem.Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS)

0,1 M NaClO<sub>4</sub>/ACN  
100 kHz -10 mhz



### 3 ELECTRODE SYSTEM

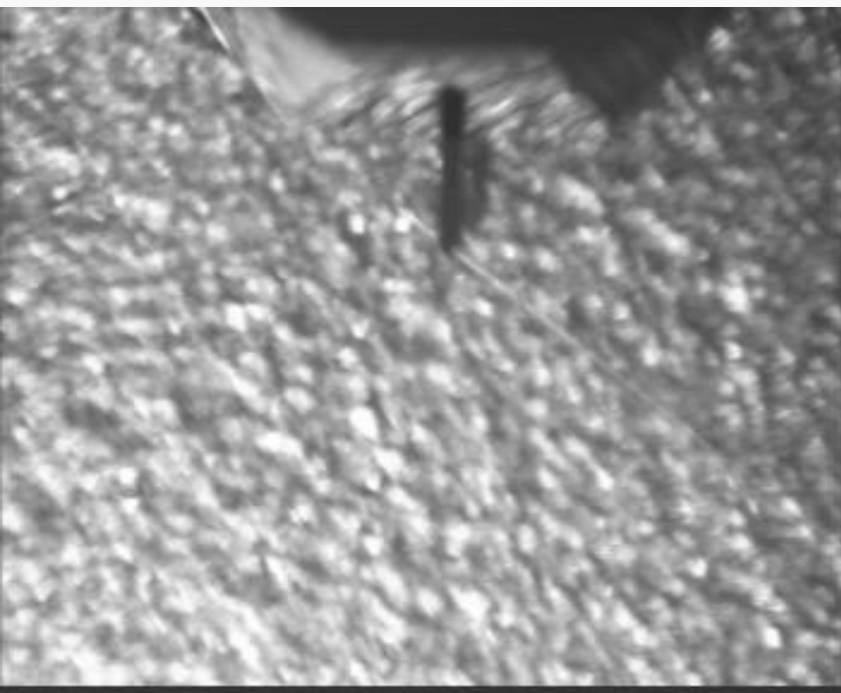
**W.E. : CFSE (carbon felts electrode) , ITO (Indium Tin oxide electrode) ,Pt**

**R.E. : Ag wire**

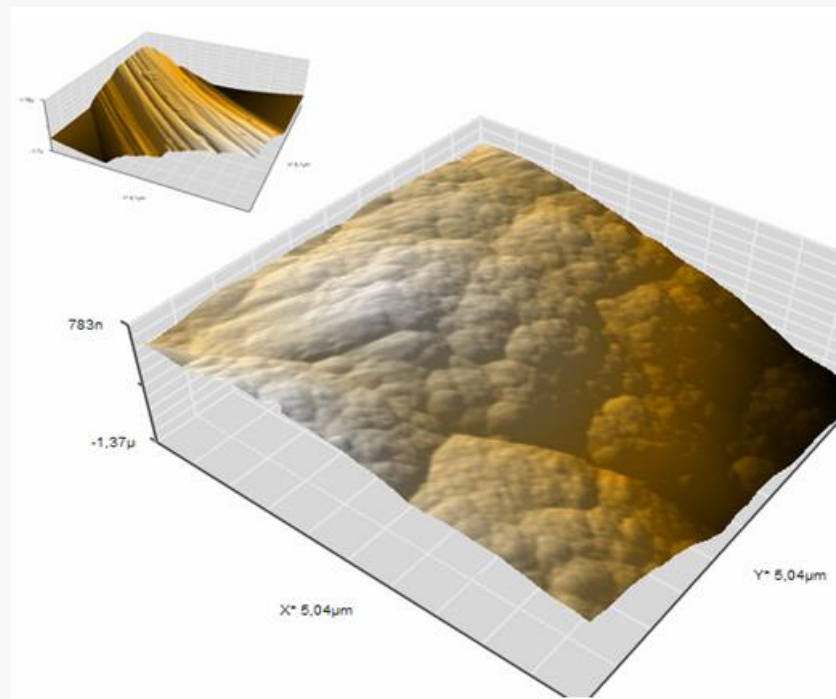
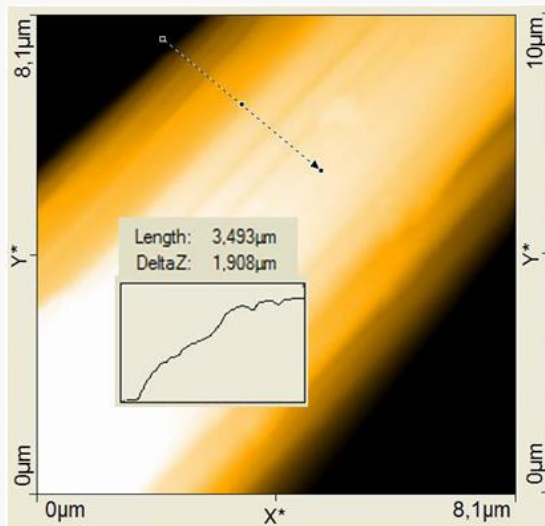
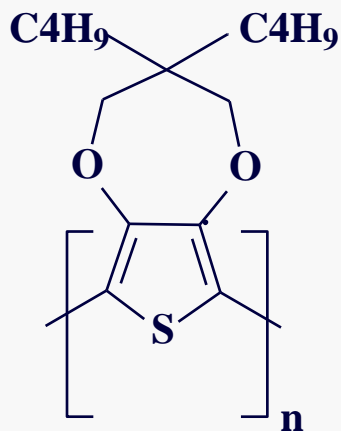
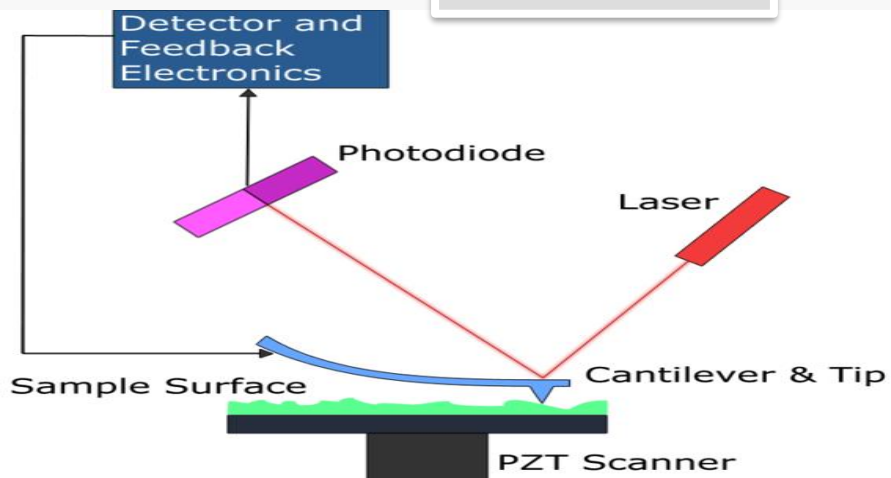
**C.E. : Pt wire**



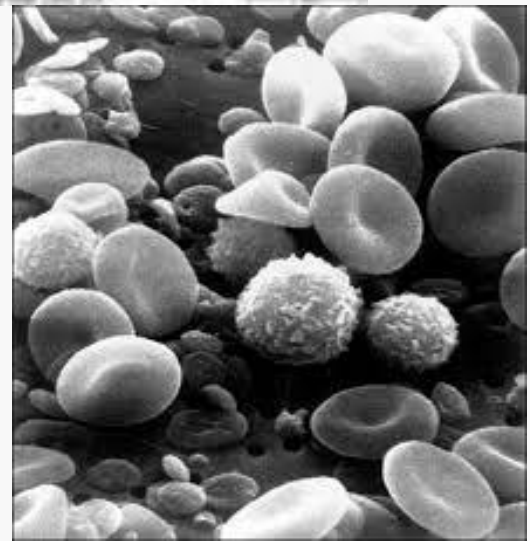
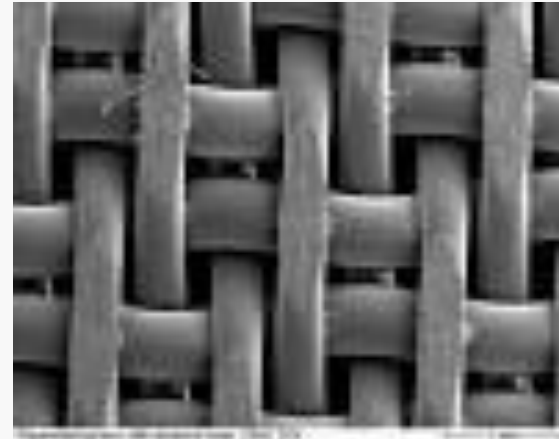
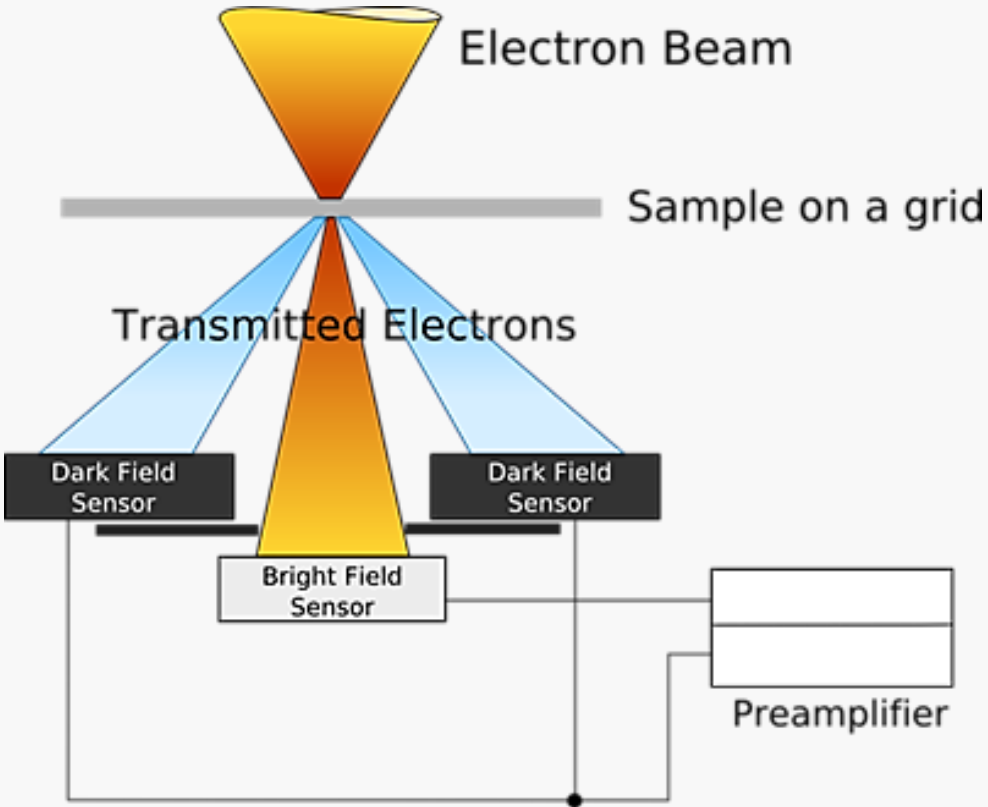
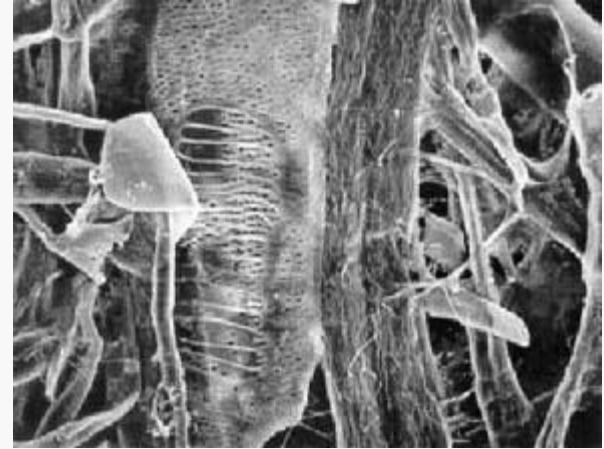
# Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)



NON-CONTACT



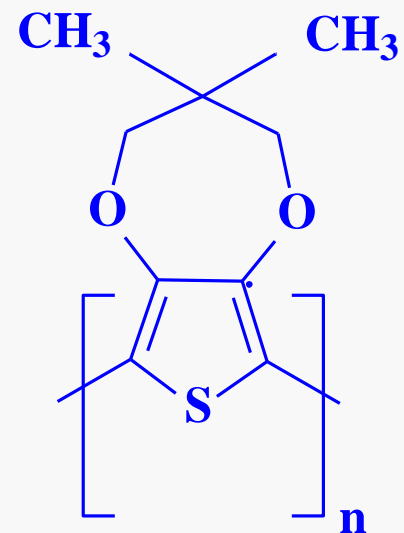
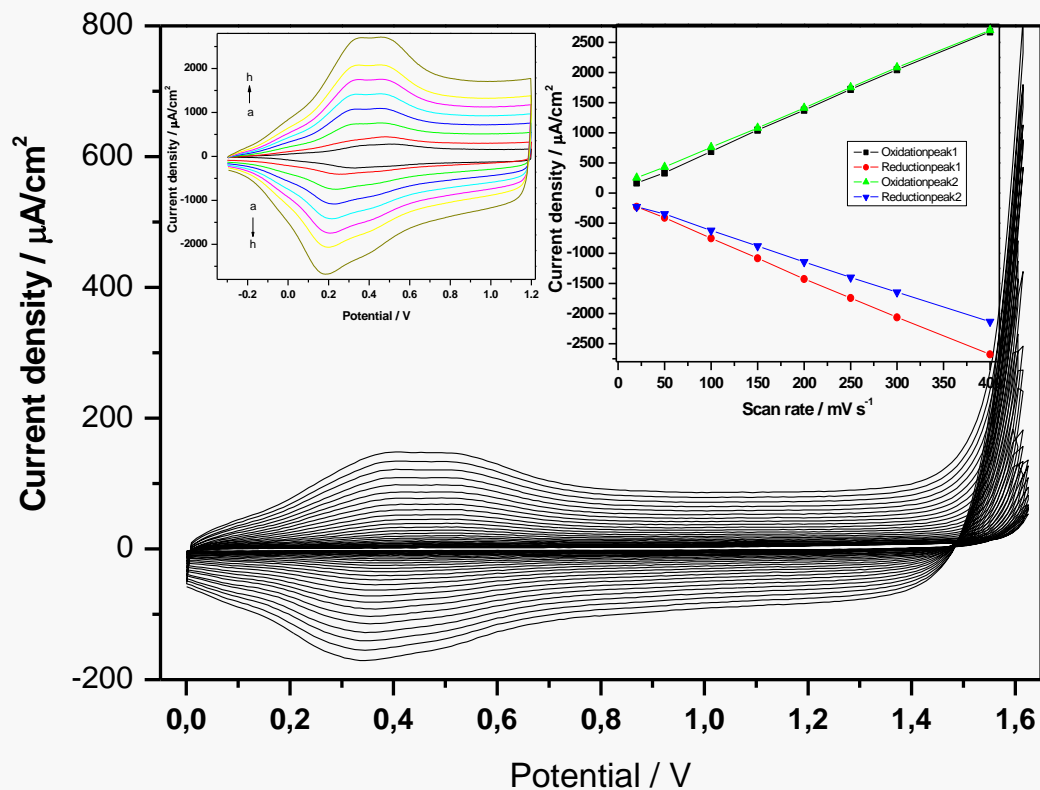
# Scanning Electron Microscopy



# Experiment 1.

## Cyclic Voltammetric film growth

100 mV/s



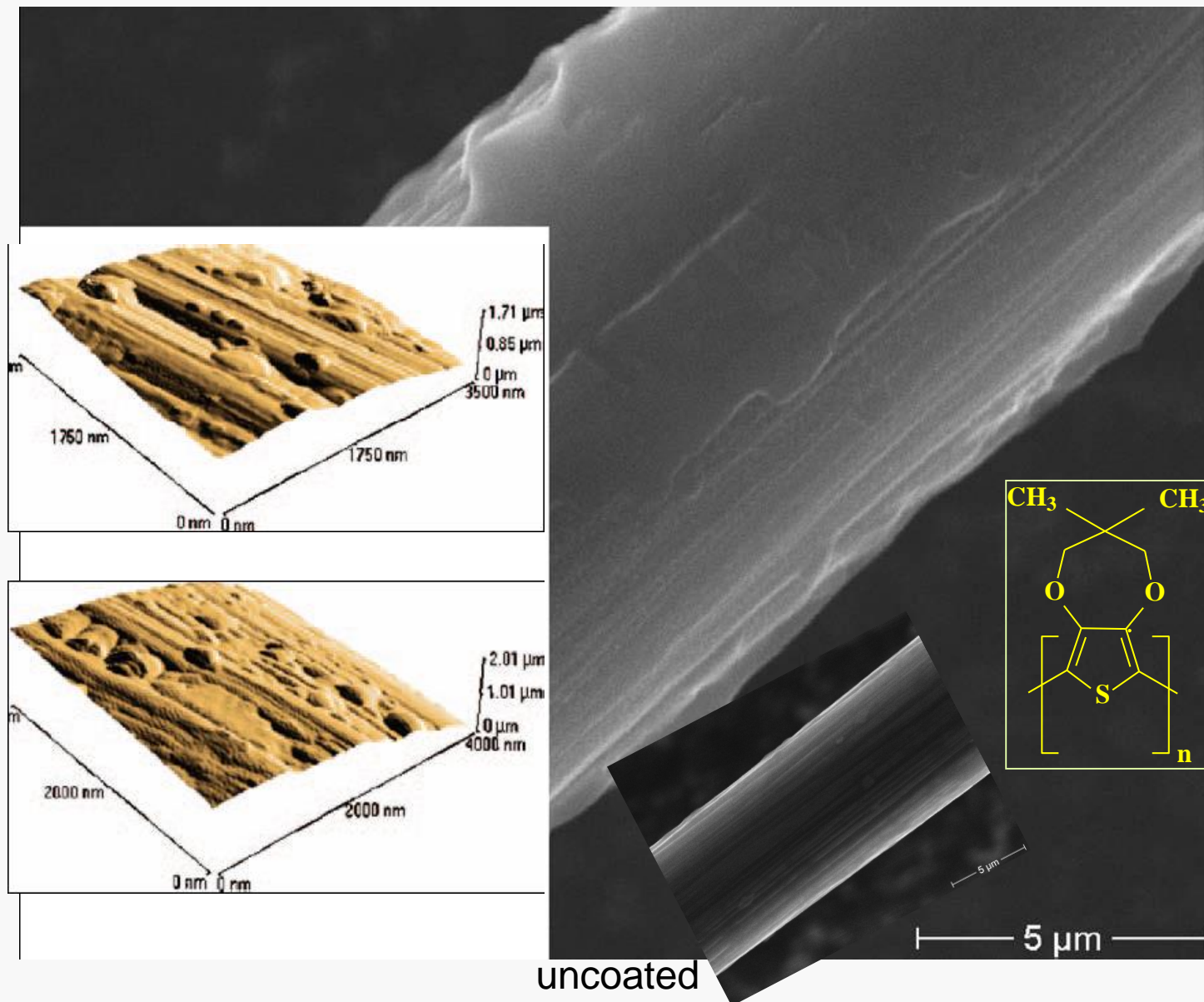
**5mM ProDOT-Me<sub>2</sub> deposited at 100 mV/s, 10cycle in 0.1 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>/ACN**

EDX results of coatings

# SEM & AFM

Electrocoated 2,2-Dimethyl-3,4 Propylenedioxythiophene on CFME  
in 0.1 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>/ACN at scan rate: 400 mV/s, 10 cycle.

SCAN RATE  
EFFECT  
400 mV/s

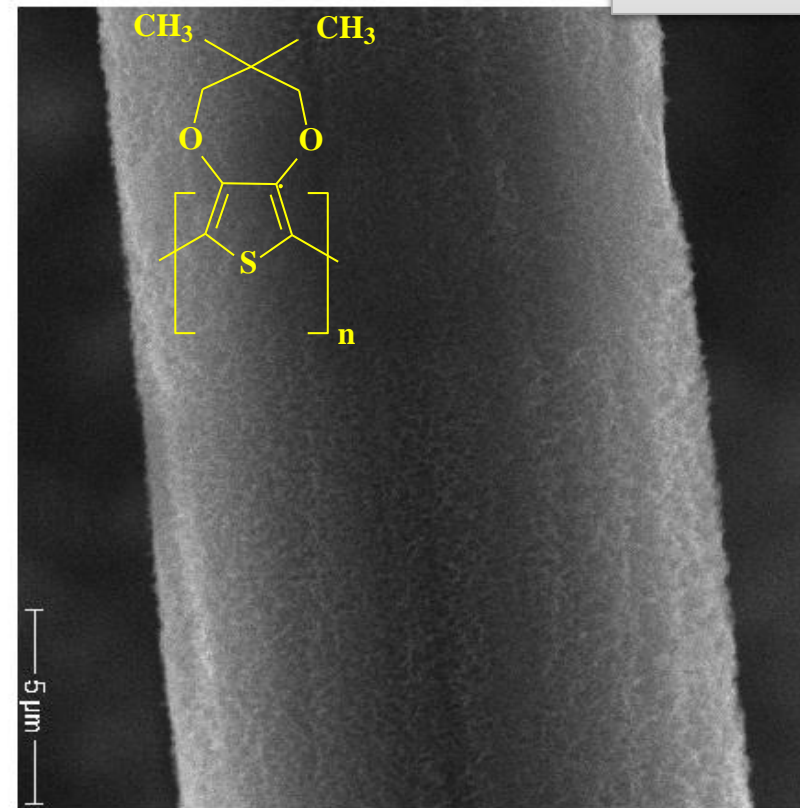
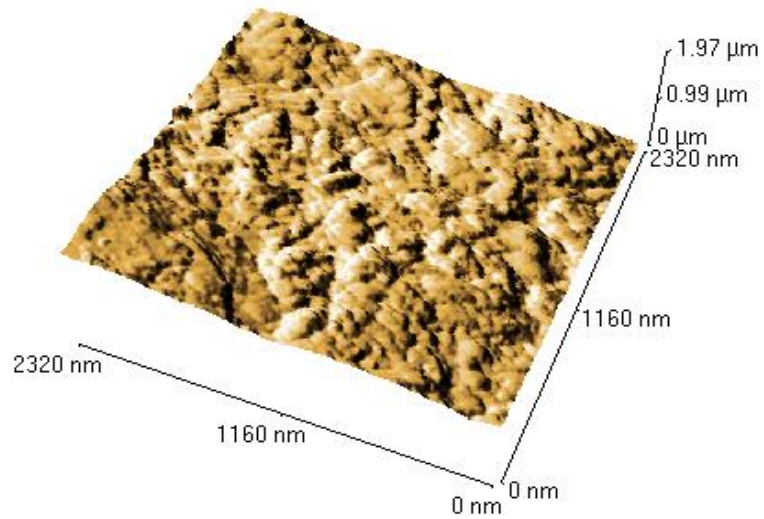
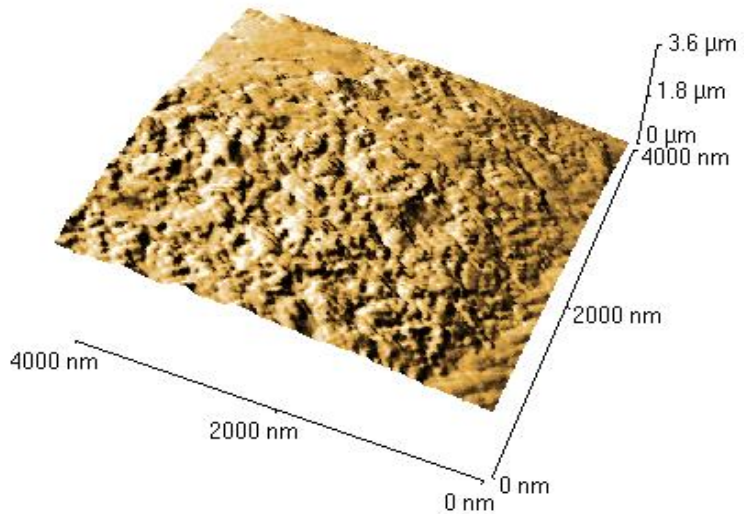




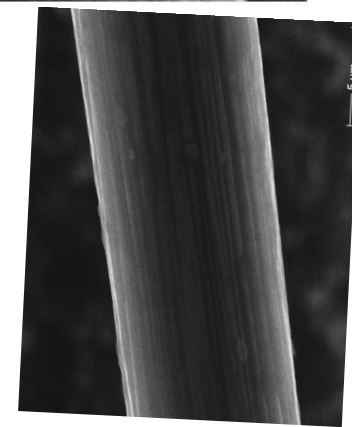
# SEM & AFM

## Electrocoated 2,2-Dimethyl-3,4 Propylenedioxythiophene on CFME 20 mV/s & 10 cycle

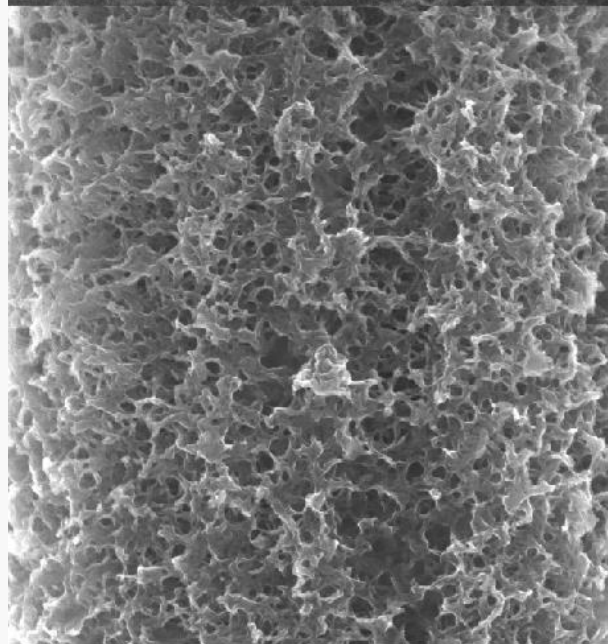
20 mV/s



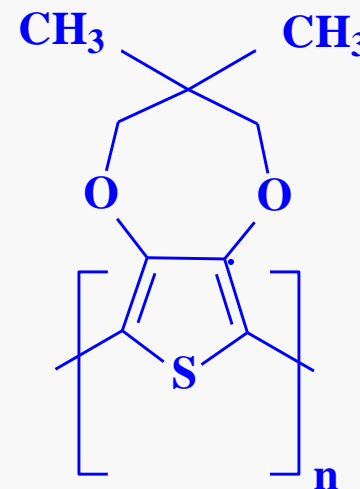
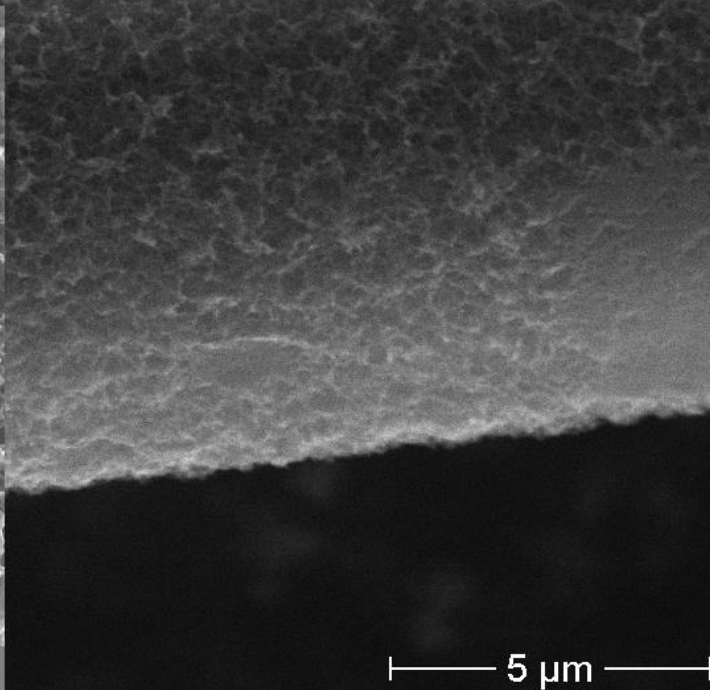
uncoated CF



100 mV/s



2  $\mu$ m EHT = 10.00 kV Signal A = InLens  
WD = 7 mm Photo No. = 5



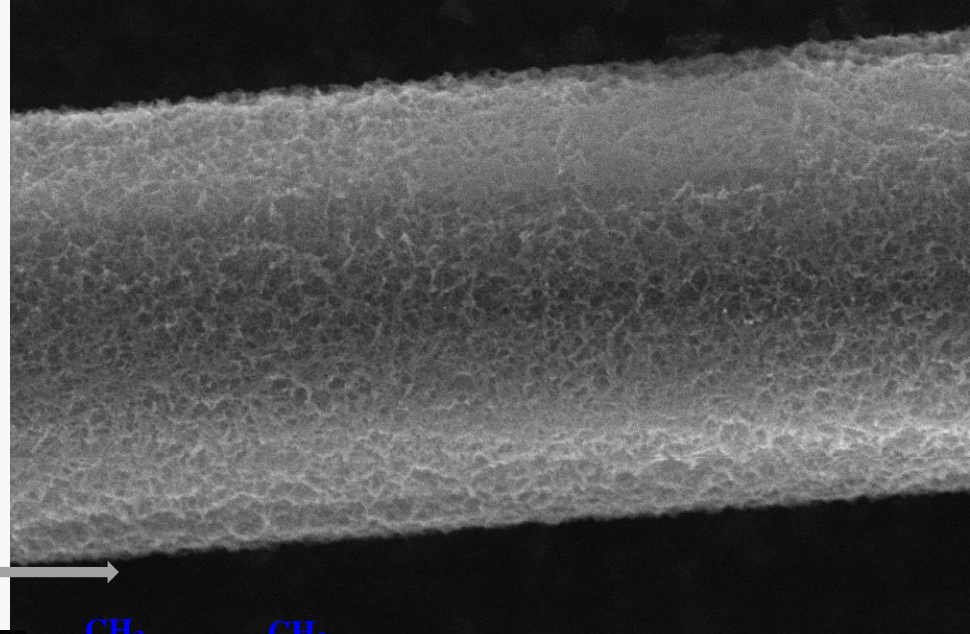
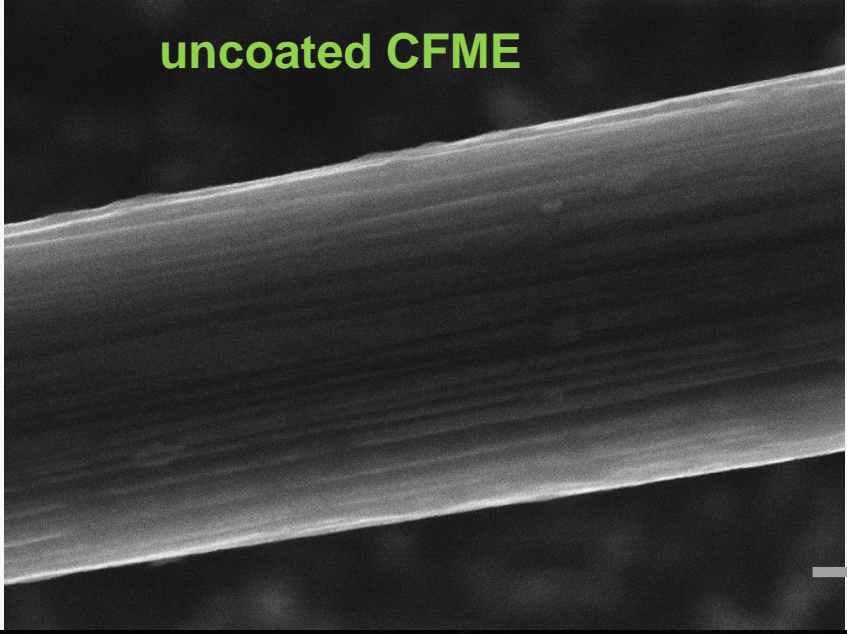
**SEM picture of PProDOT-(Me)<sub>2</sub>/CFME  
in 0,1 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>/ACN  
scan rate:100 mV/s ,10 cycle, 2 different magnifications**



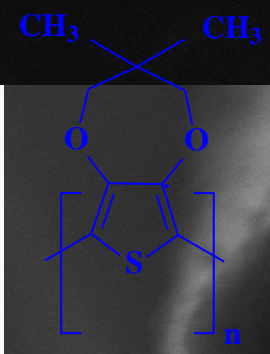
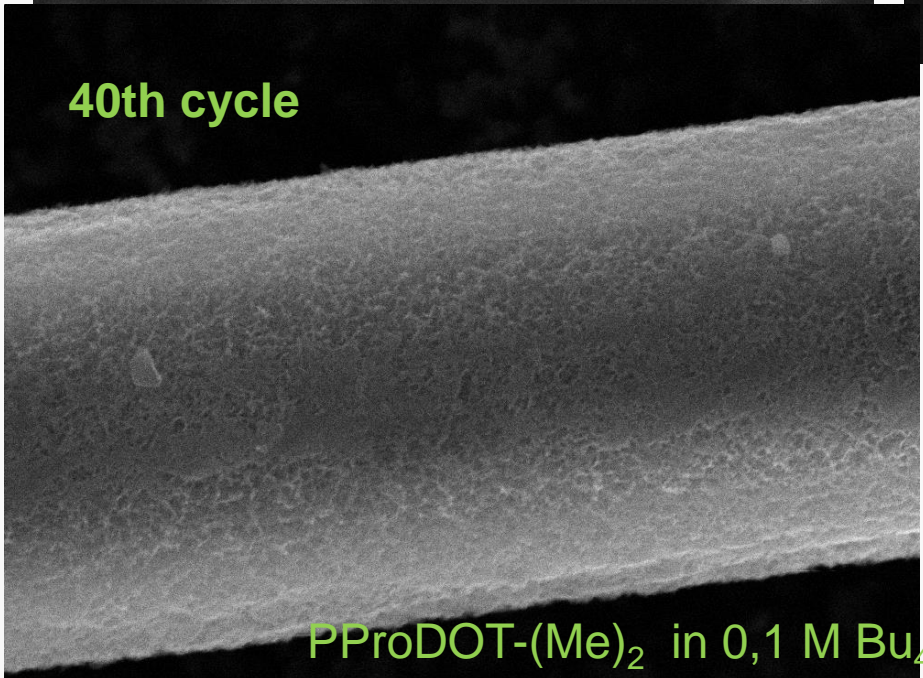
# EFFECT OF CYCLIZATION (No OF CYLCGES)

## 20th cycle coated CFME

uncoated CFME



40th cycle



PProDOT-(Me)<sub>2</sub> in 0,1 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>/ACN

100 mV/s

5 μm

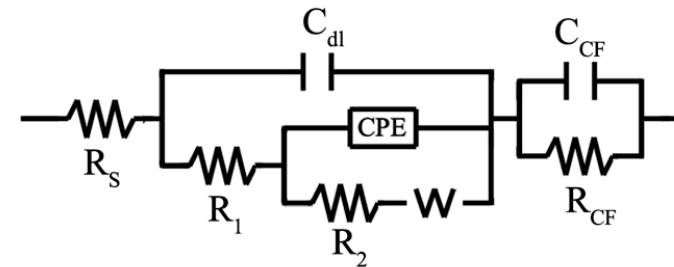
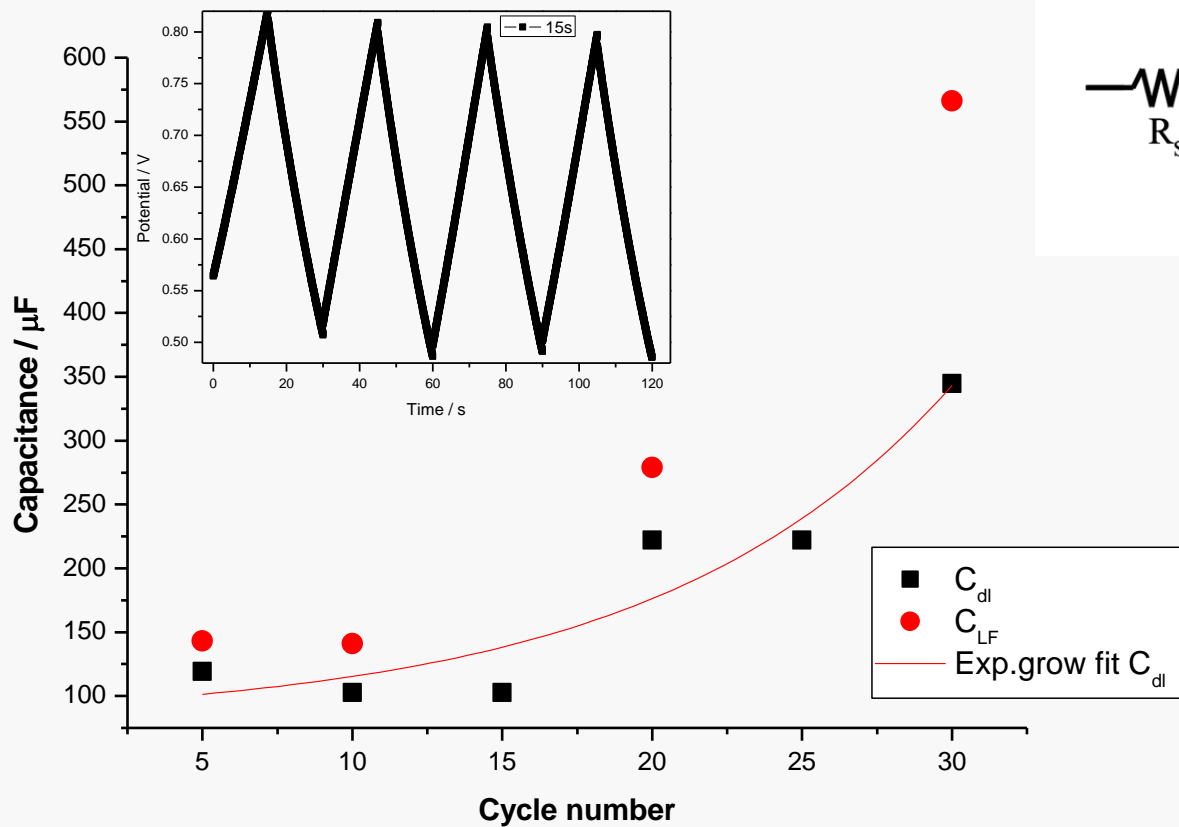
40th cycle

5 μm

5 μm

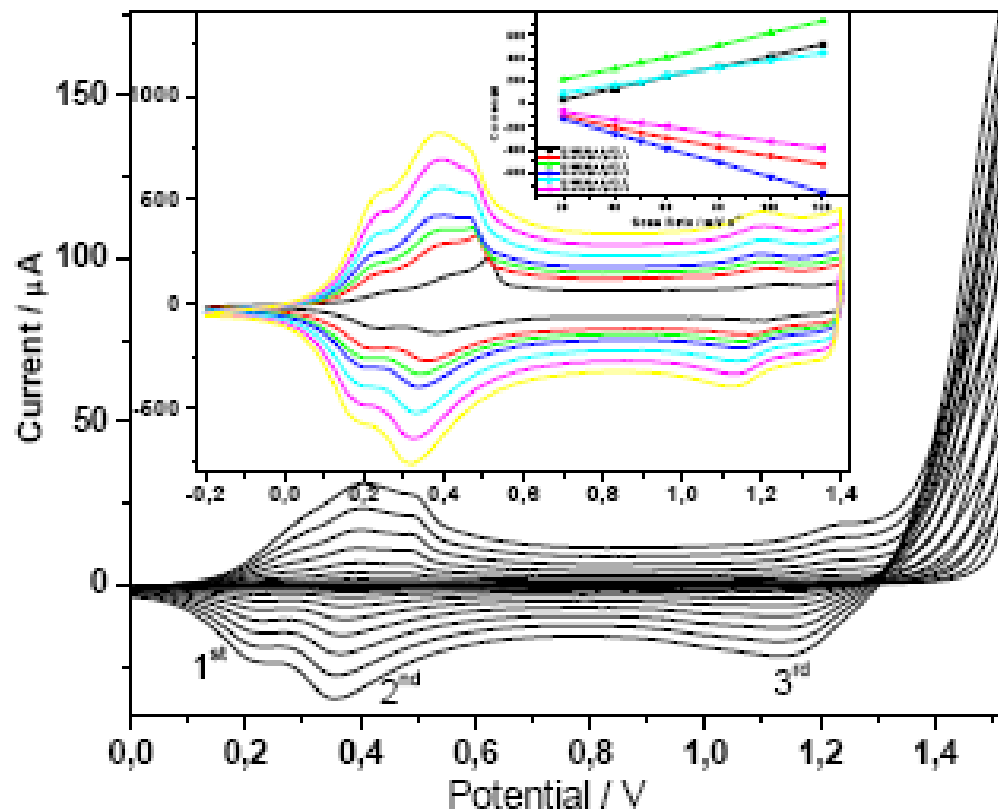
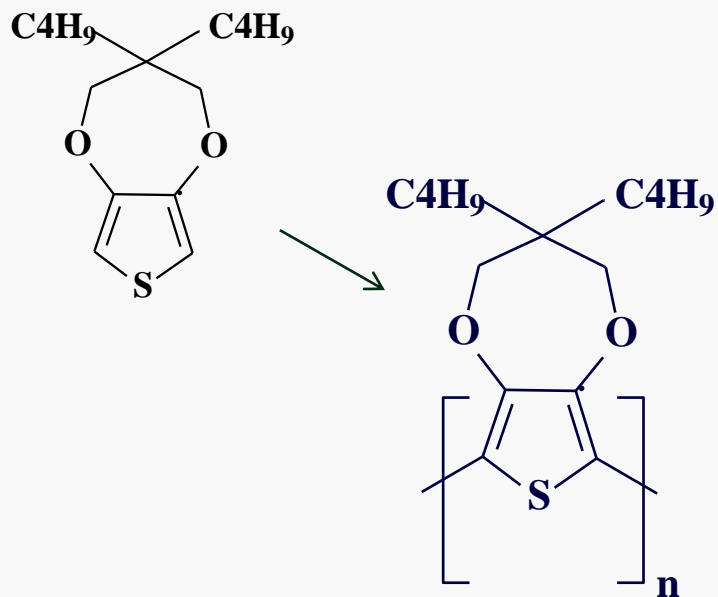
## Capacitance vs scan no

5mM ProDOT-Me<sub>2</sub> deposited at  
100 mV/s in 0.1 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>/ACN



# Poly(3,4-alkylenedioxythiophene) Derivatives

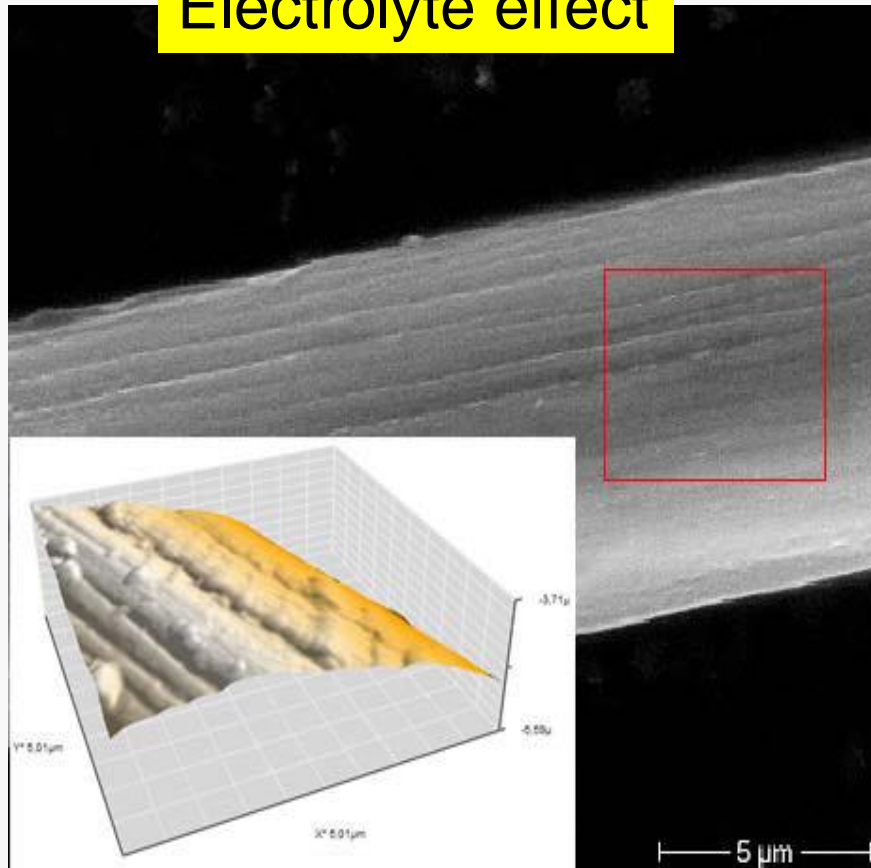
## 2,2 -dibutylpropylene dioxythiophene (PProDOT(Bu)<sub>2</sub>)



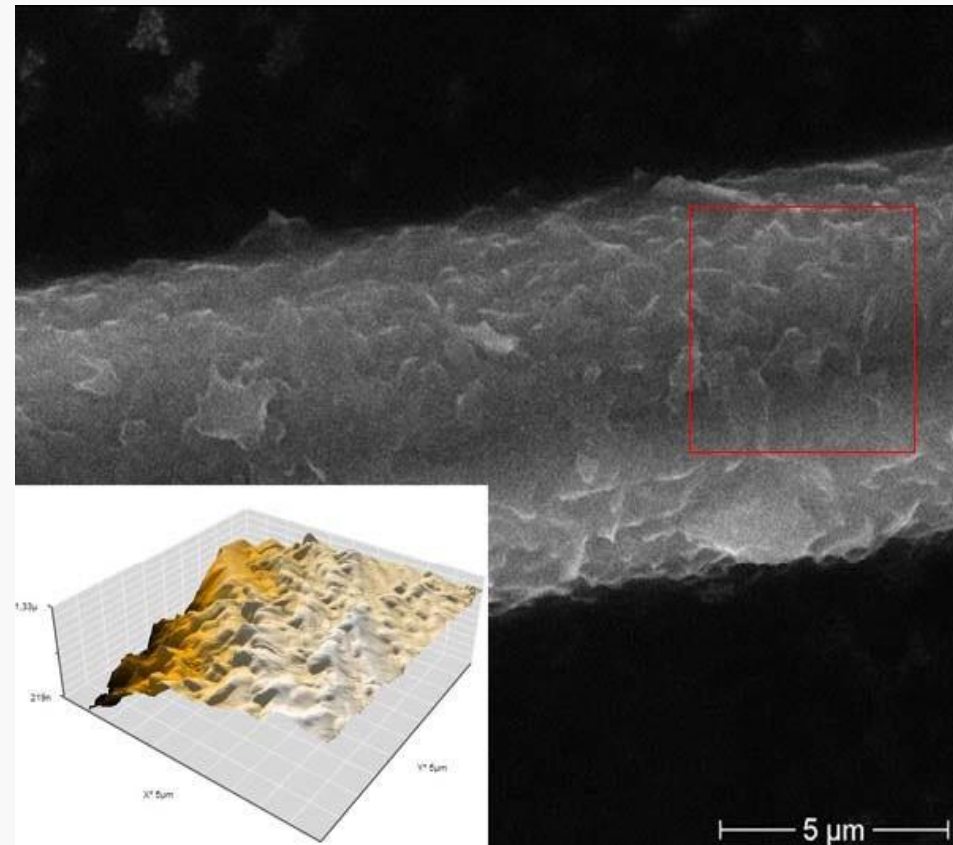


# Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM) & SEM

Electrolyte effect



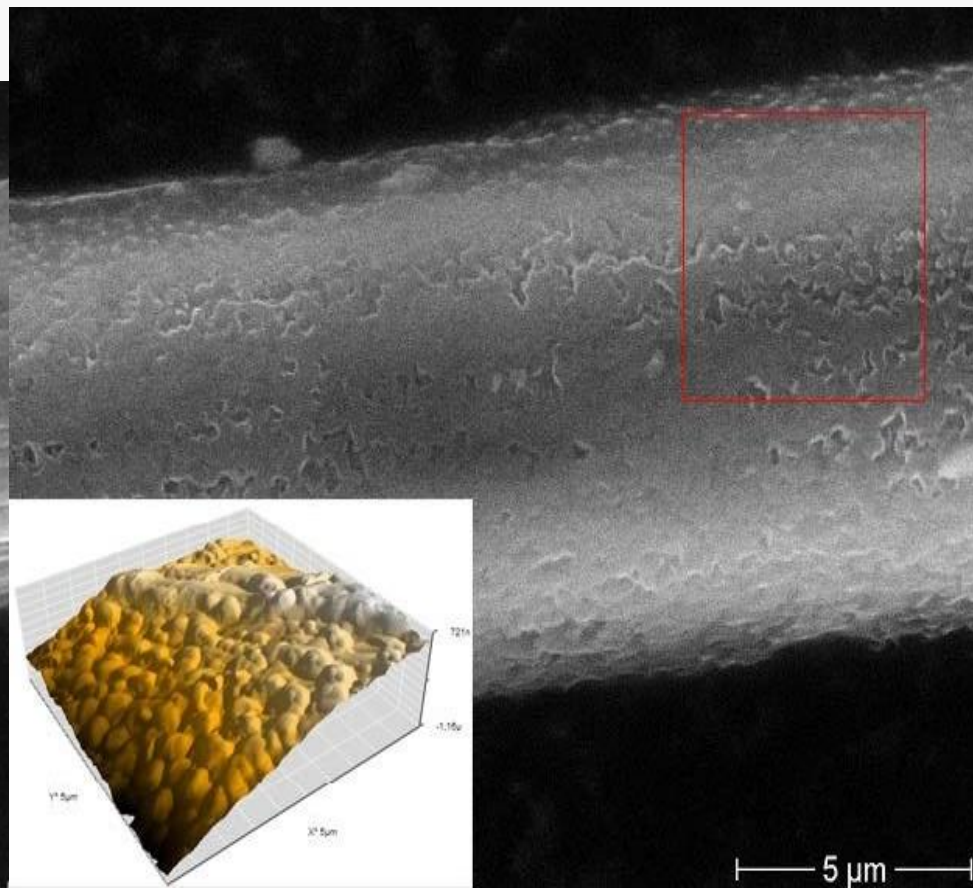
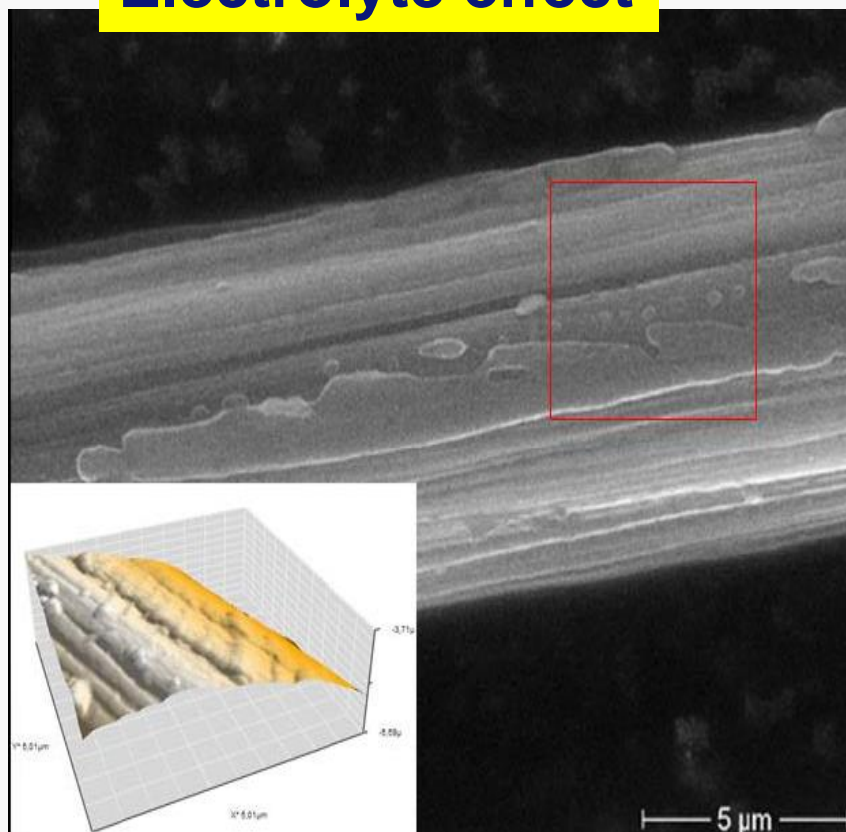
PProDOT-(Bu)<sub>2</sub>/0,1 M **Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>**/ACN



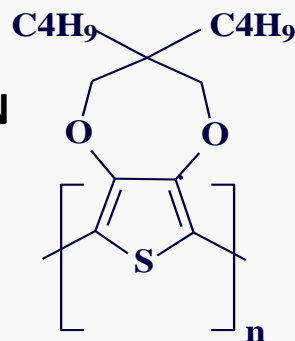
PProDOT-(Bu)<sub>2</sub>/0,1 M **Bu<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub>**/ACN

# Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)

## Electrolyte effect



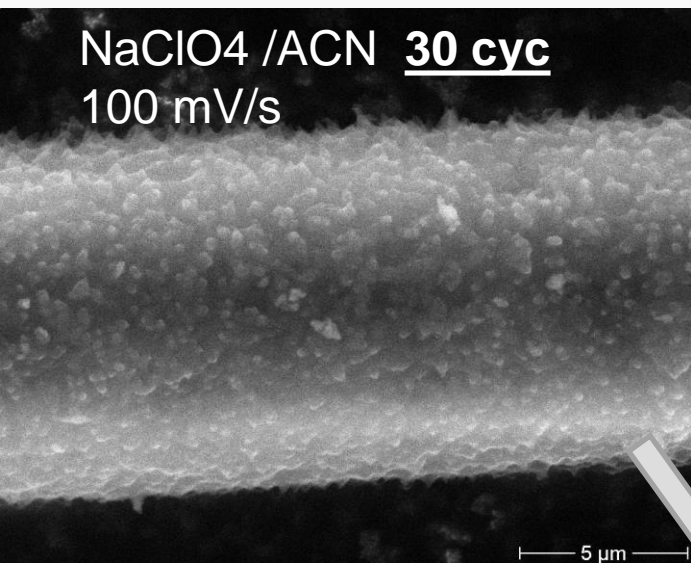
PProDOT-(Bu)<sub>2</sub>/0,1 M Et<sub>4</sub>NClO<sub>4</sub>/ACN



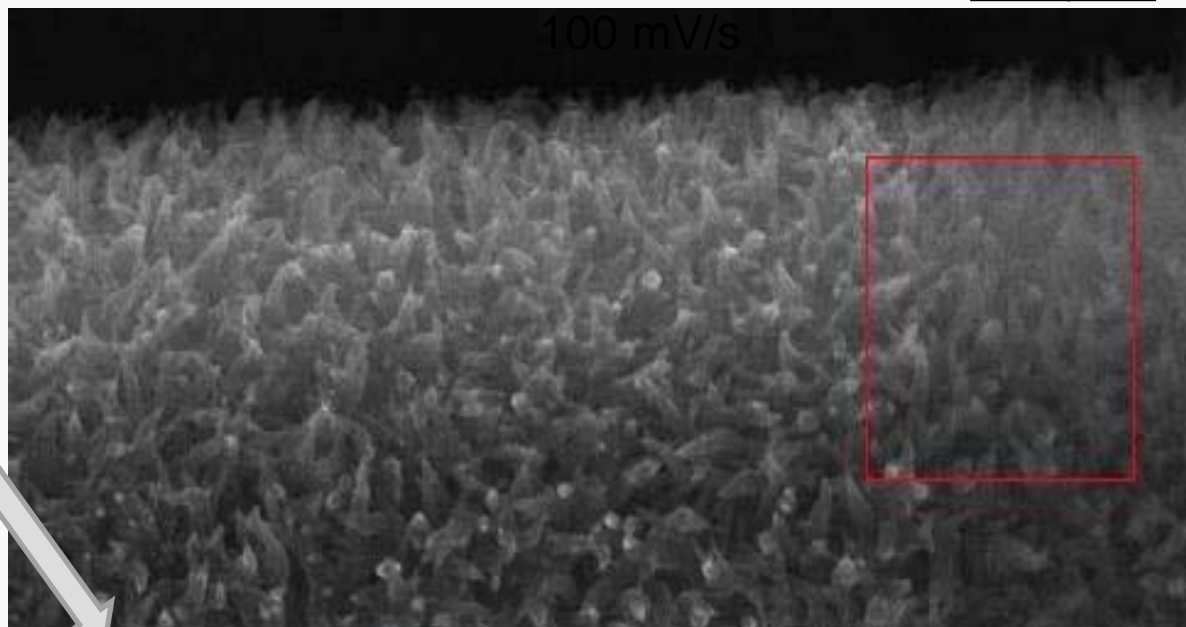
PProDOT-(Bu)<sub>2</sub>/0,1 M LiClO<sub>4</sub>/ACN

# Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)

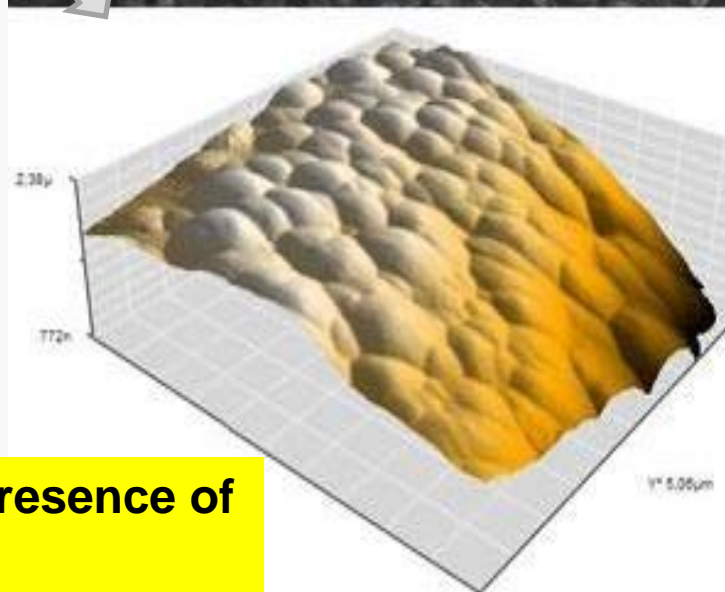
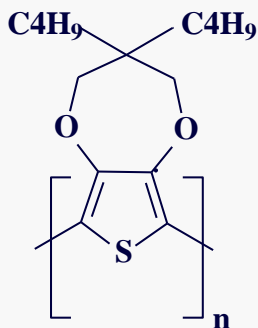
NaClO<sub>4</sub> /ACN 30 cyc  
100 mV/s



0.1 M NaClO<sub>4</sub>/ACN 10 cycle  
100 mV/s



PProDOT-(Bu)<sub>2</sub>/0,1 M NaClO<sub>4</sub>  
/ACN

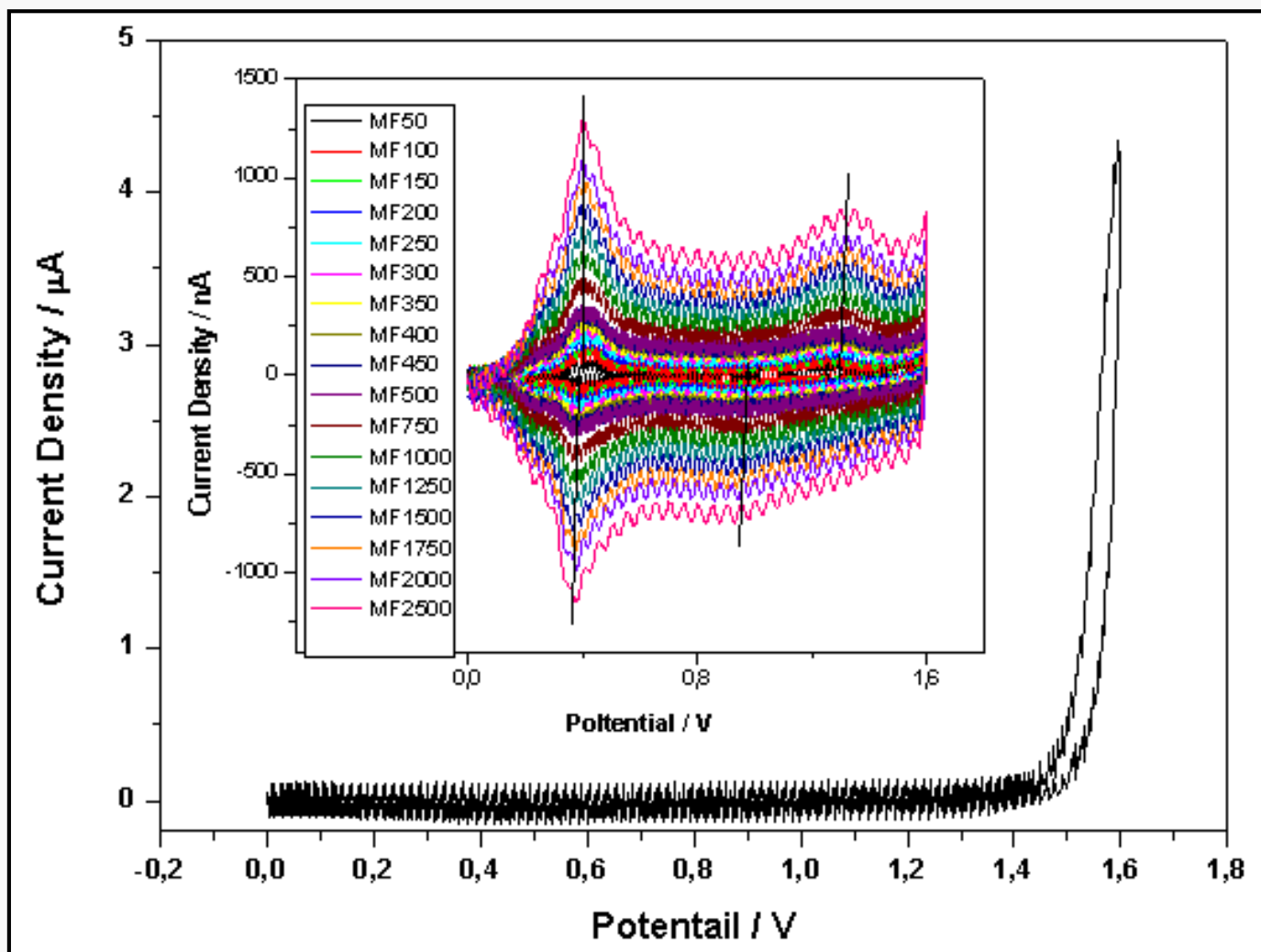
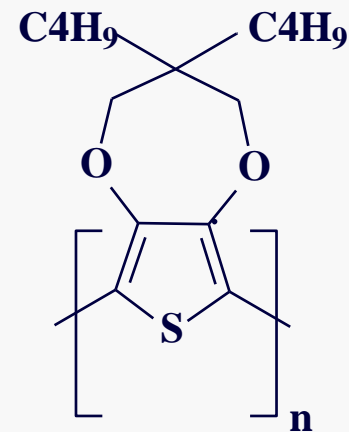


**A uniform film is created in presence of NaClO<sub>4</sub>**

5 μm

# Cycle Effect of PProDOT-Bu<sub>2</sub>/Single CFME

1st CYCLE

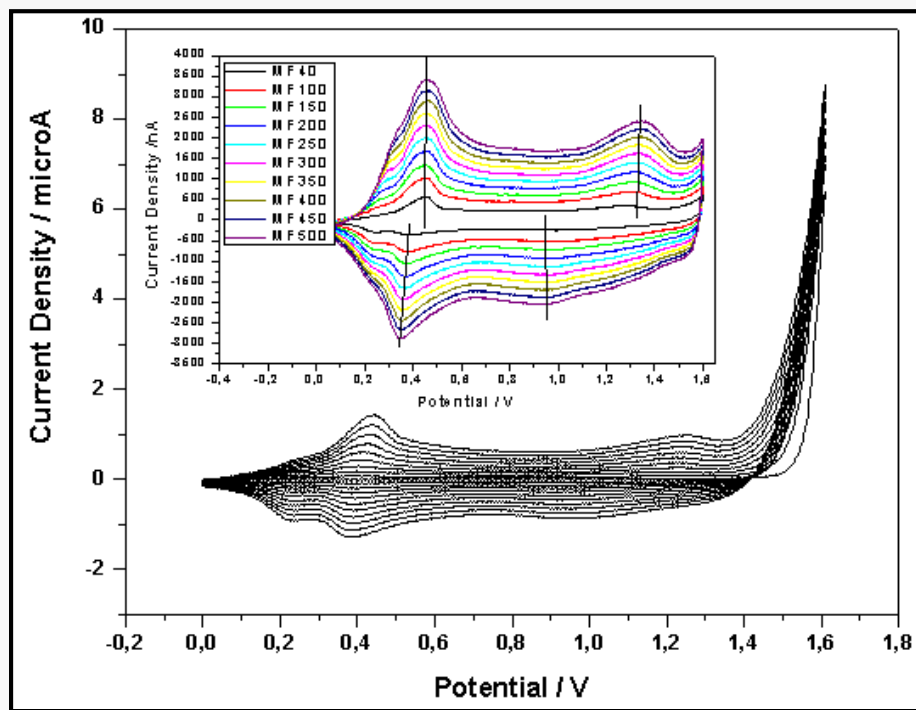




# Cycle Effect of PProDOT-Bu<sub>2</sub>/SCFME

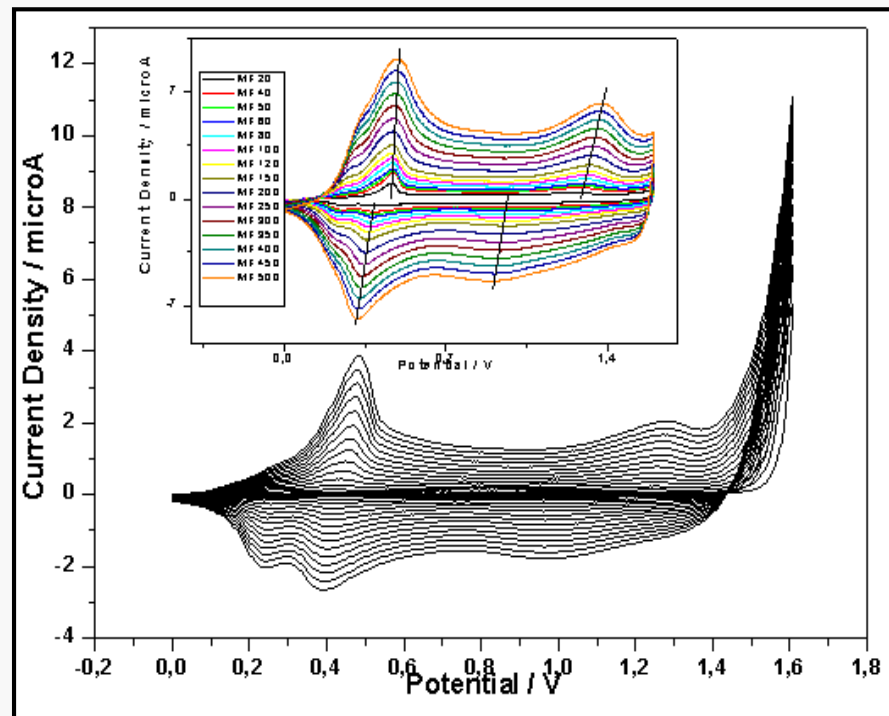
**10 CYCLES**

10 CYCLES



**15 CYCLES**

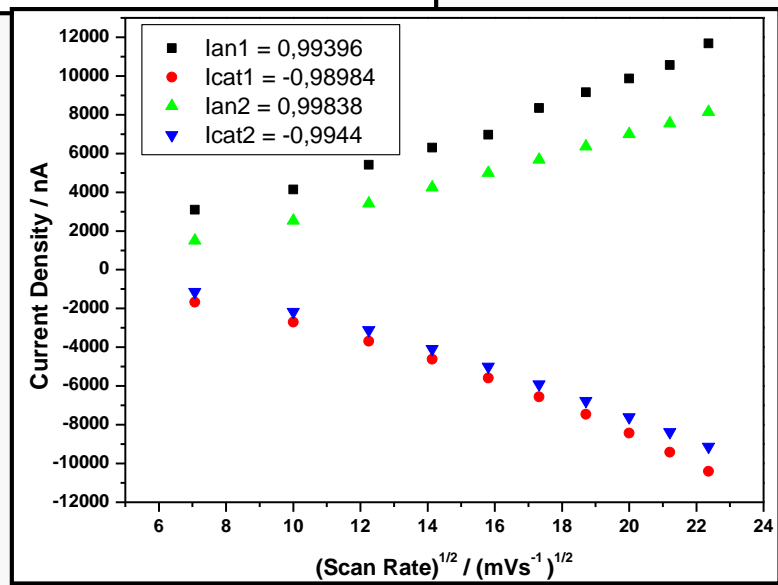
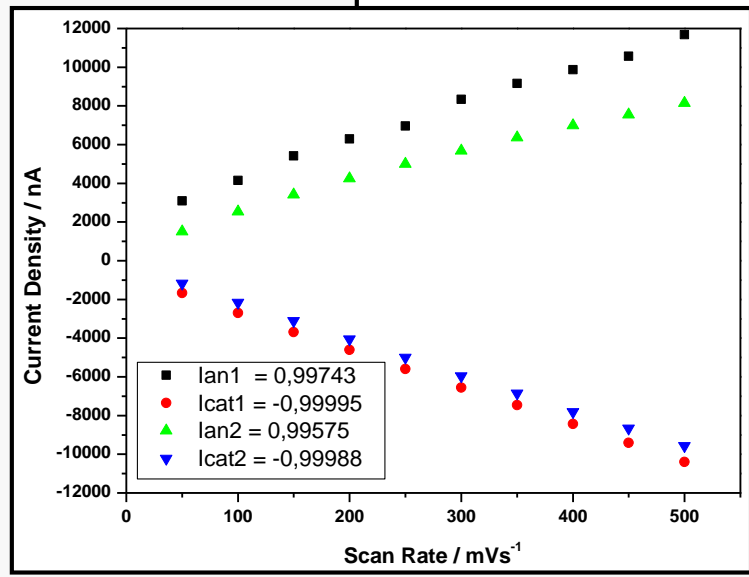
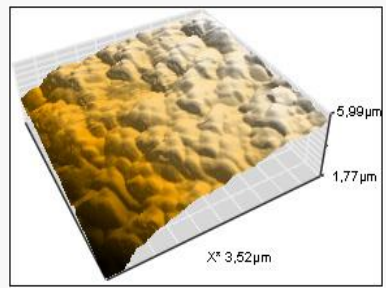
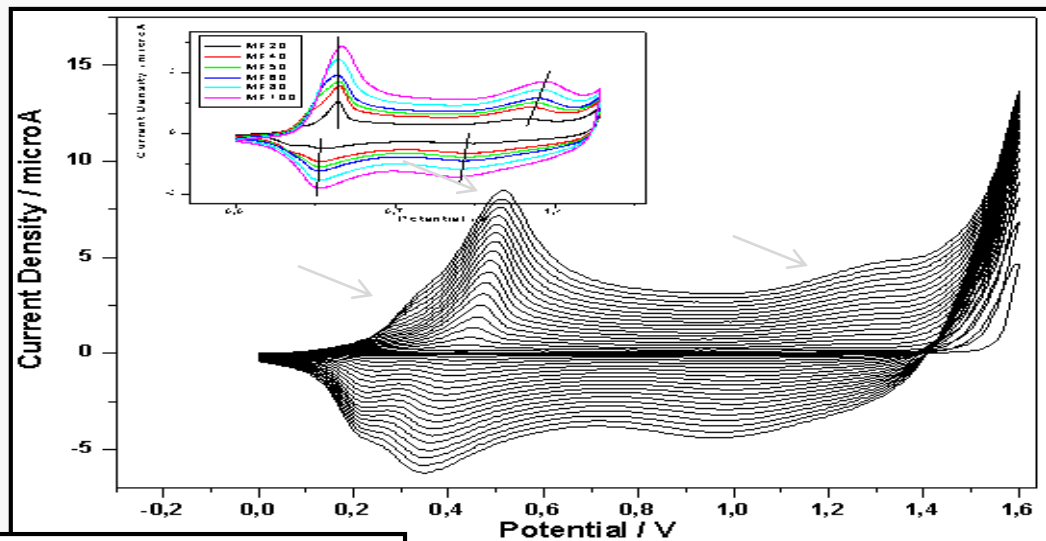
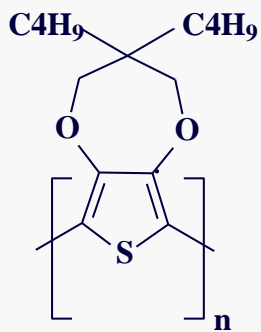
15 CYCLES





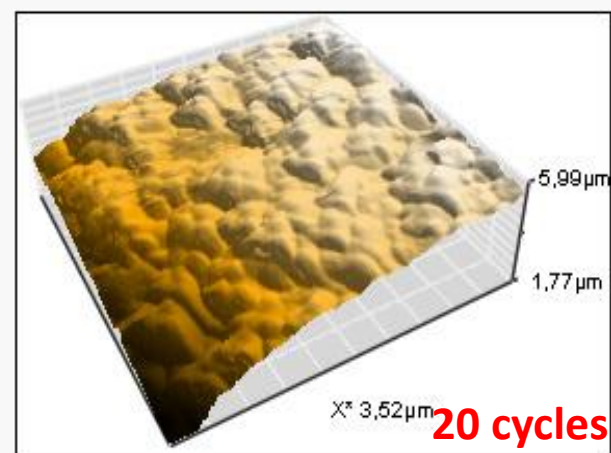
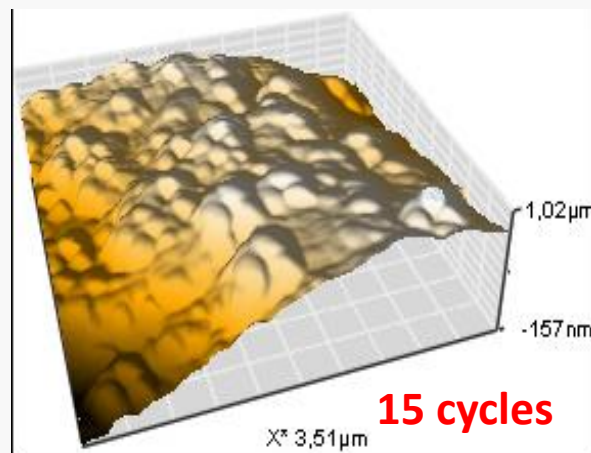
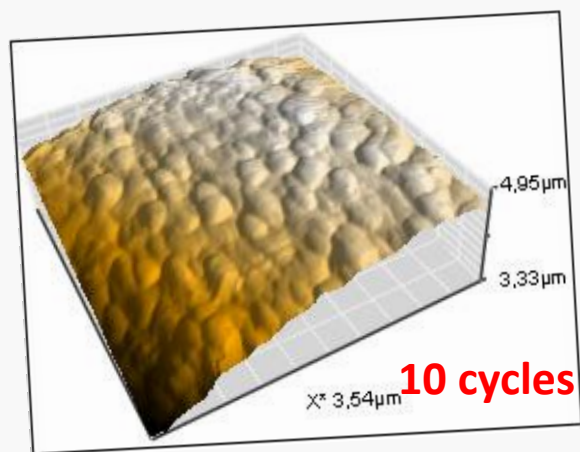
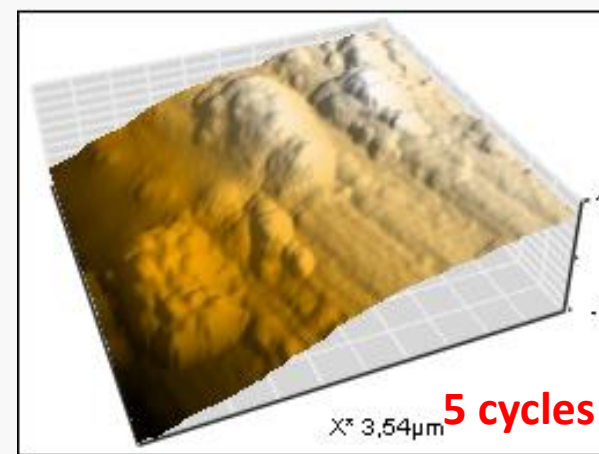
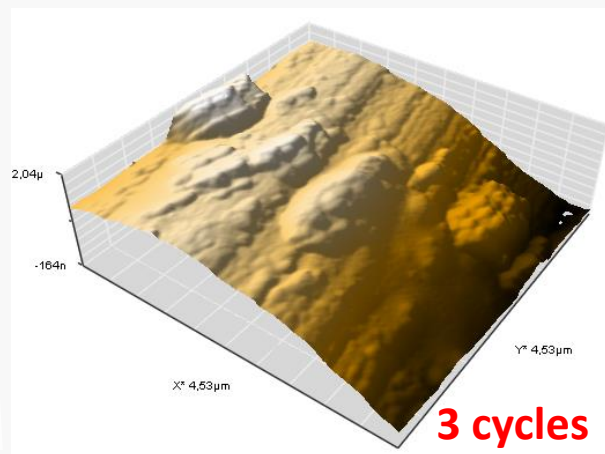
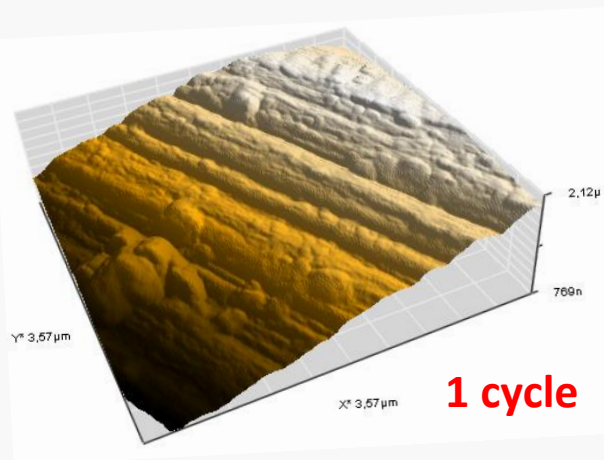
# Cycle Effect of PProDOT-Bu<sub>2</sub>/SCFME

## 20 CYCLES



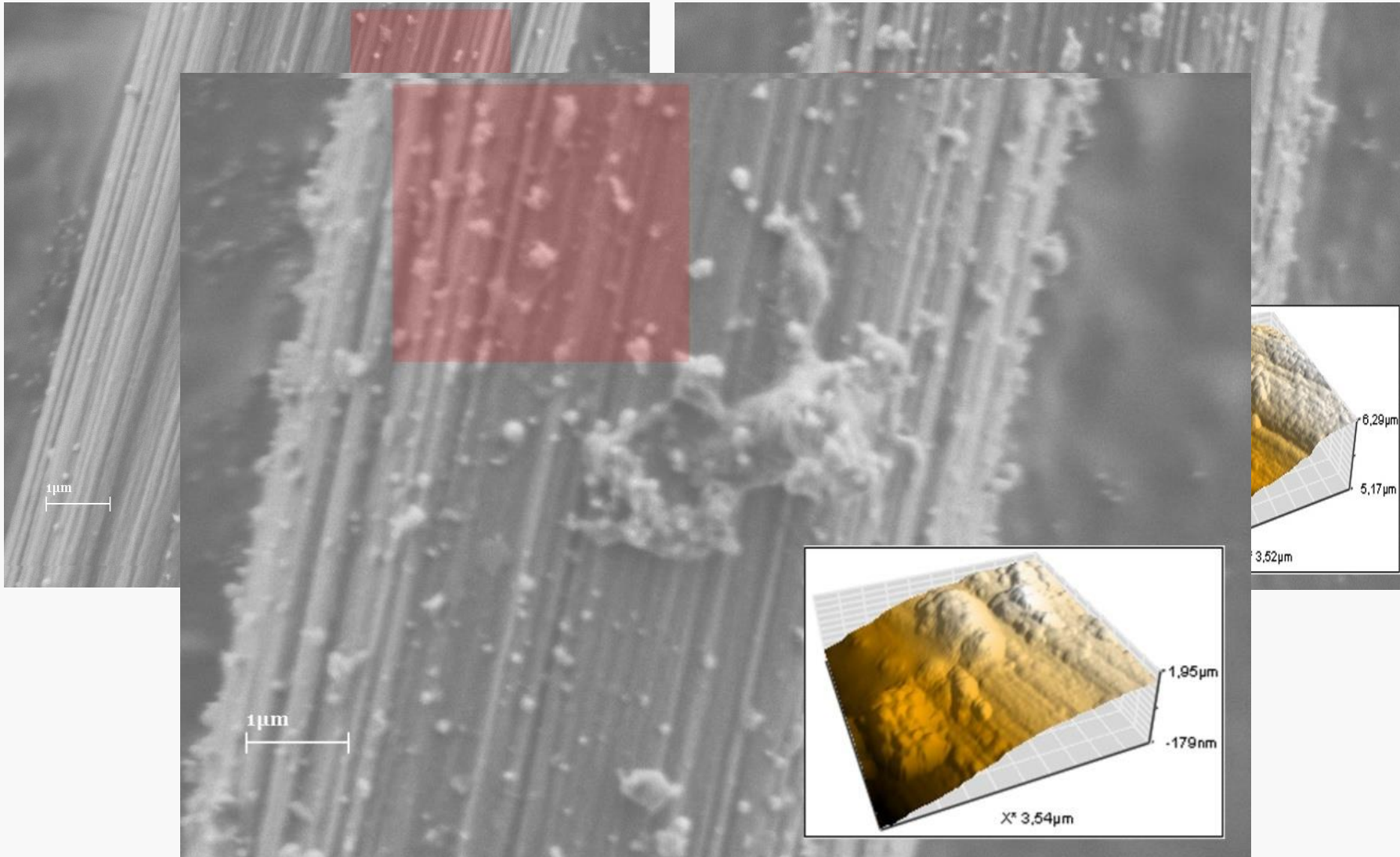
# Cycle Effect of PProDOT-Bu<sub>2</sub>/SCFME

## AFM



# Cycle Effect of PProDOT-Bu<sub>2</sub>/SCFME

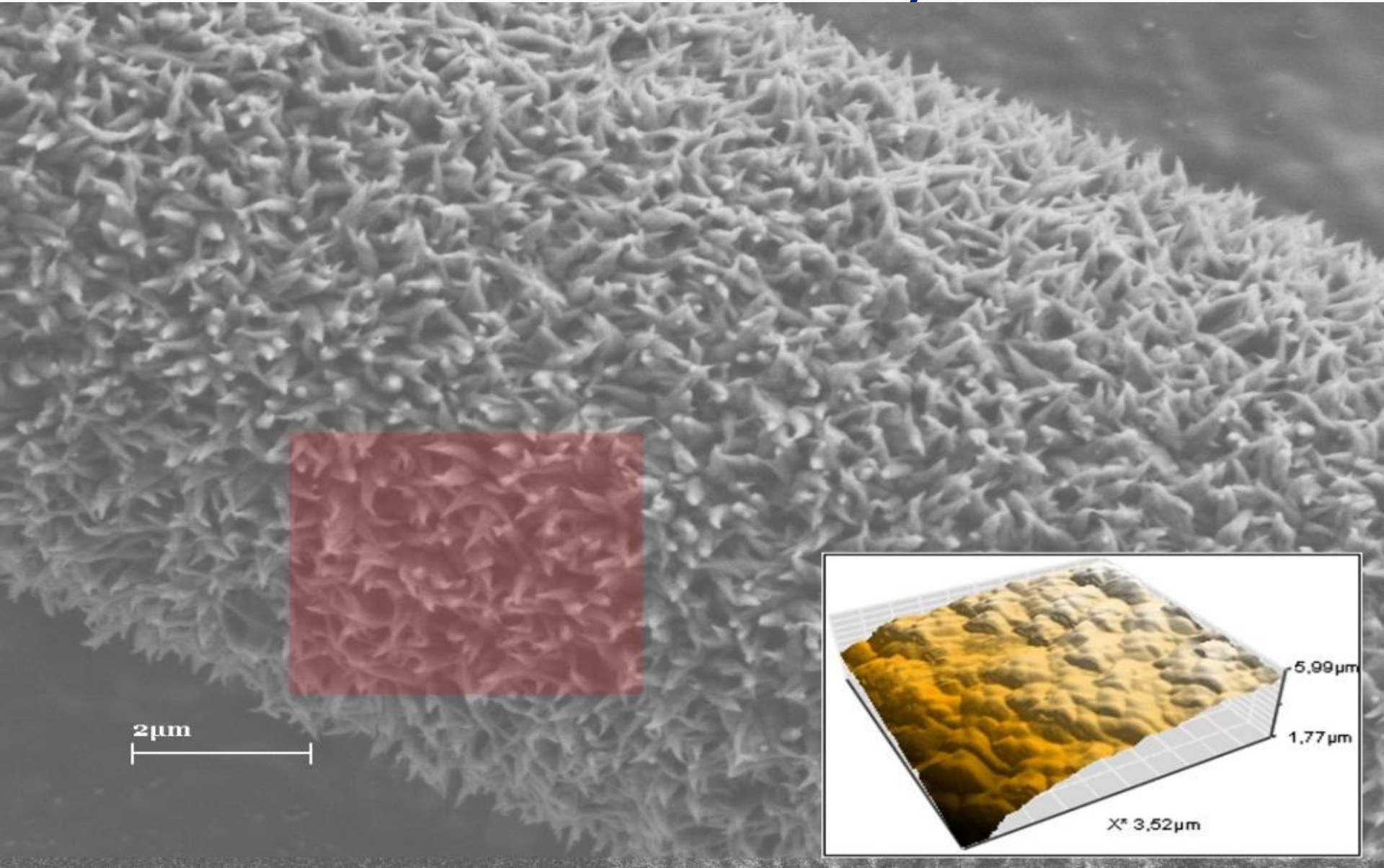
## SEM 1-3-5 Cycles





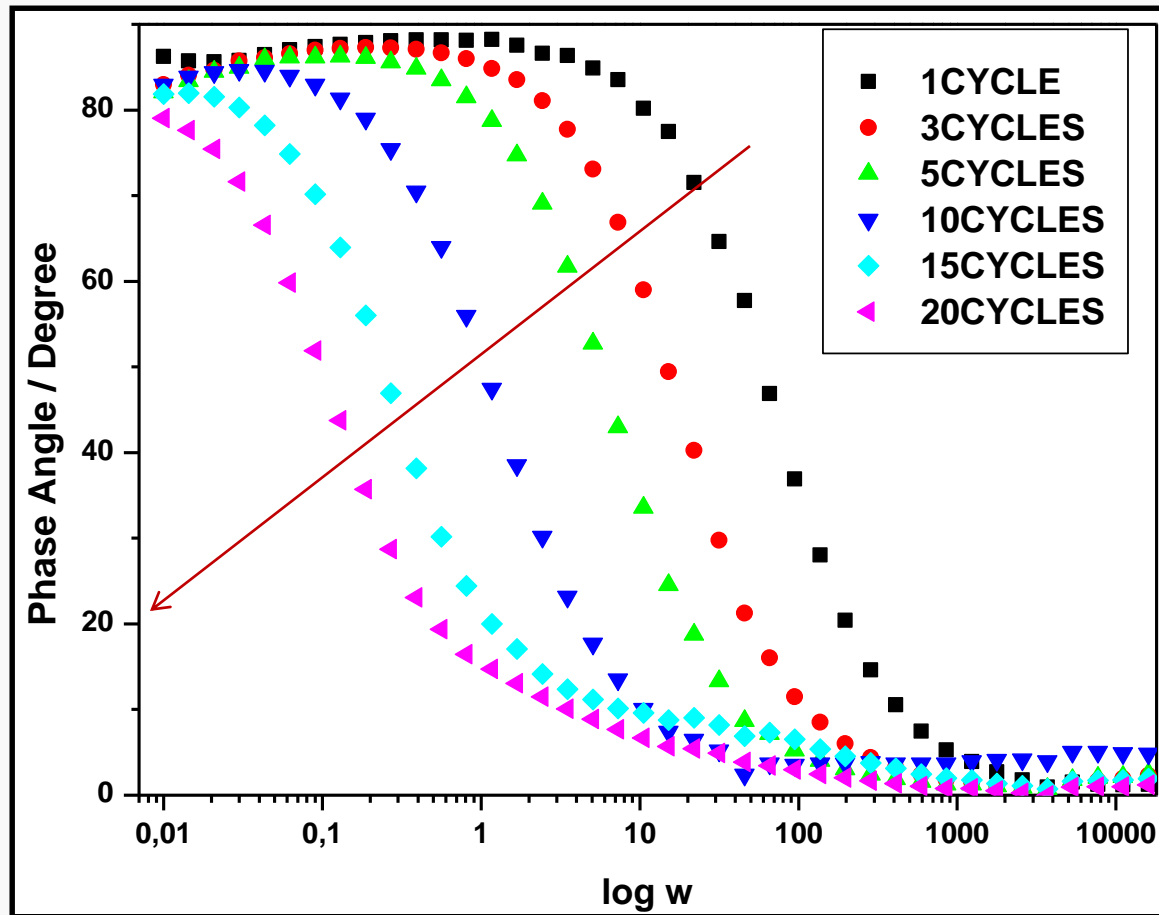
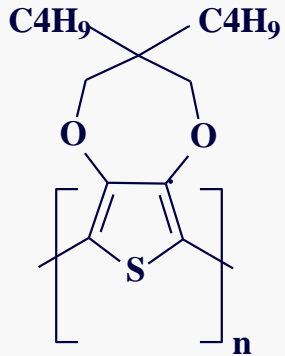
# Cycle Effect of PProDOT-Bu<sub>2</sub>/SCFME

## SEM 10-15- 20 cycles



# Cycle Effect of PProDOT-Bu<sub>2</sub>/SCFME

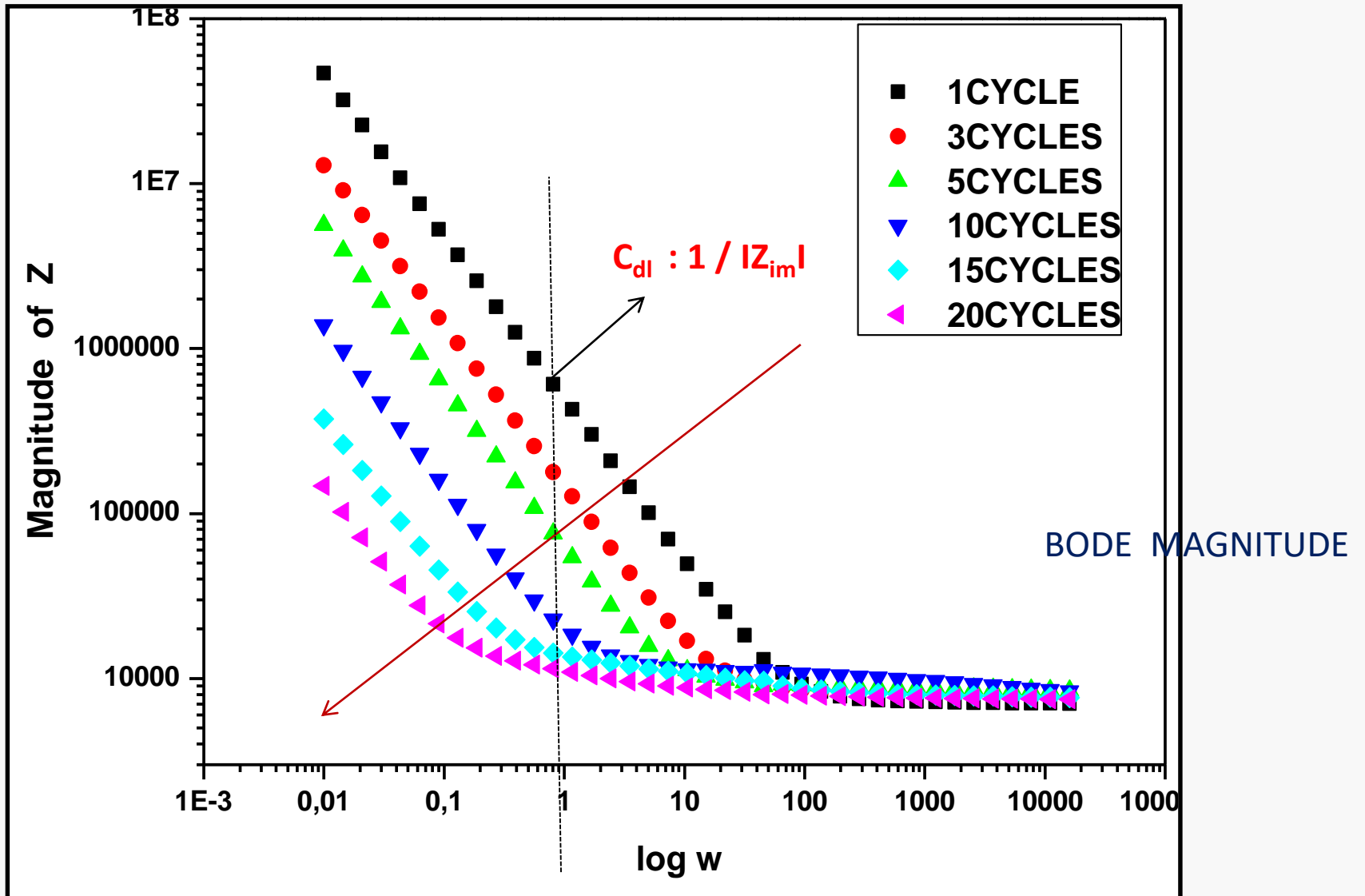
## EIS



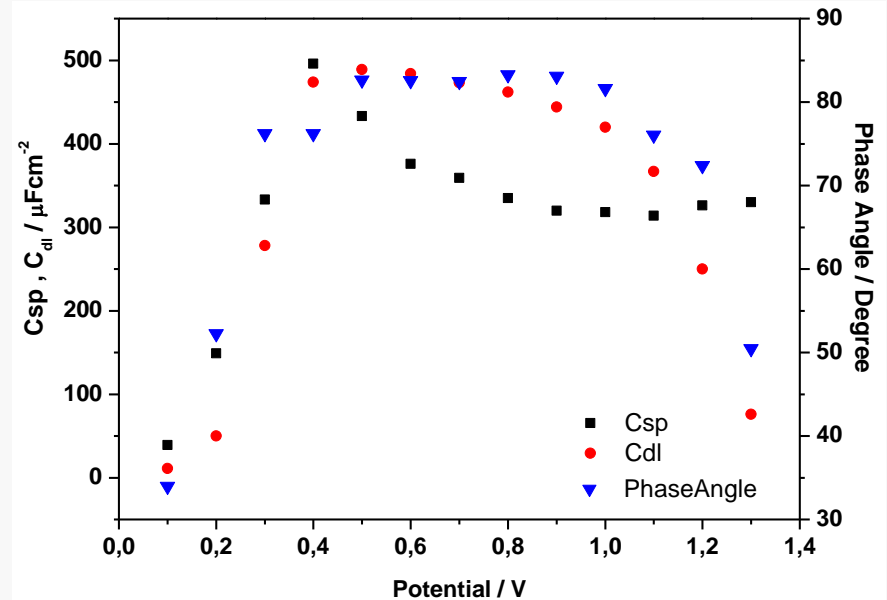
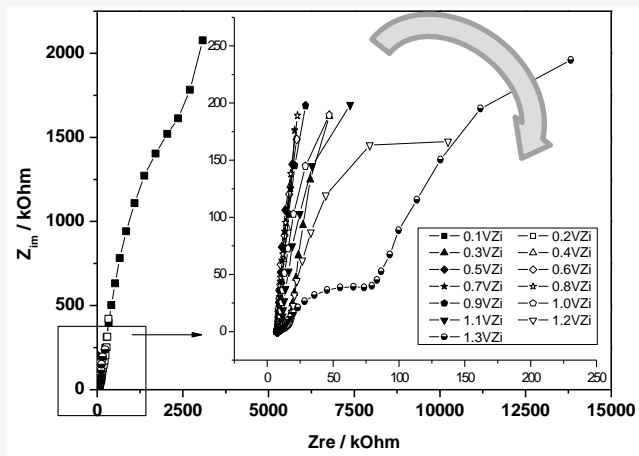
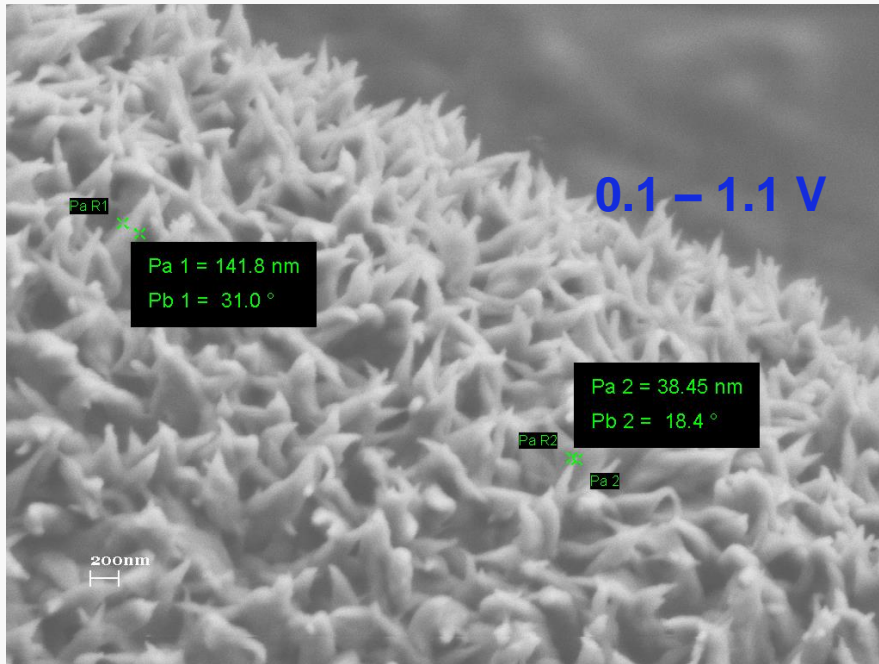
BODEPHASE



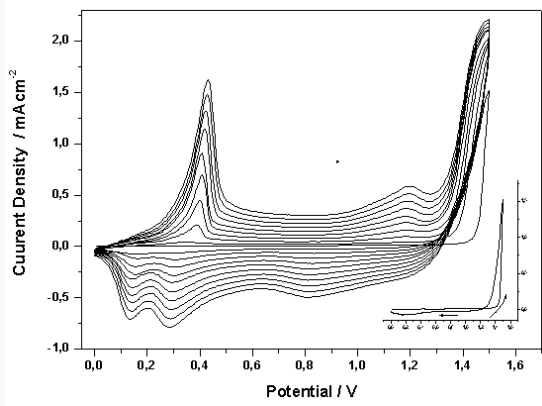
# Cycle Effect of PProDOT-Bu<sub>2</sub>/SCFME



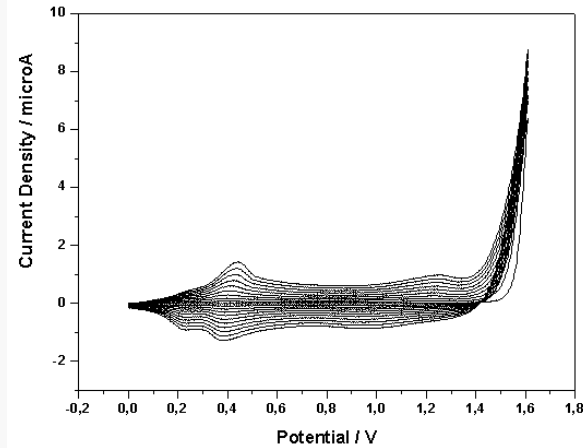
# Potential Effect of PProDOT-Bu<sub>2</sub>/CFSE



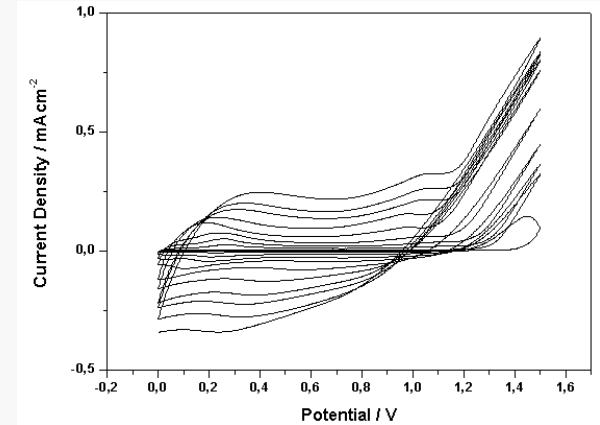
# Substrate Effect of PProDOT-Bu<sub>2</sub>



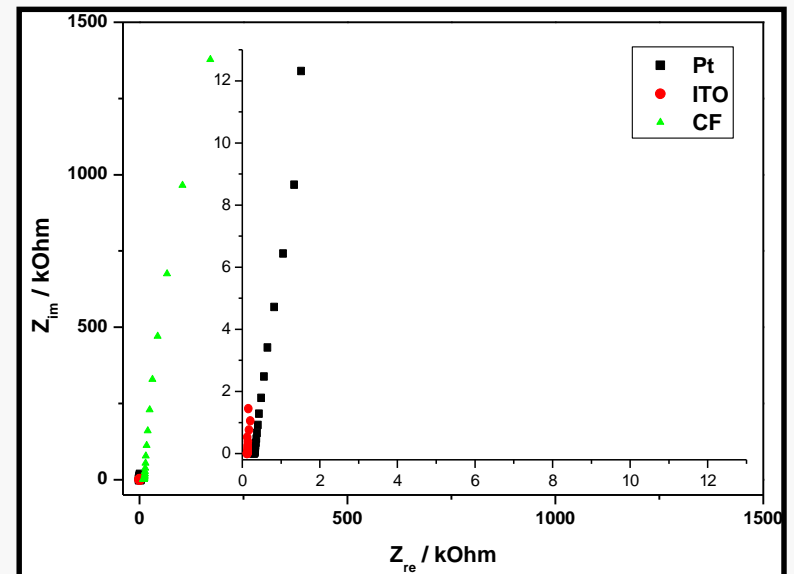
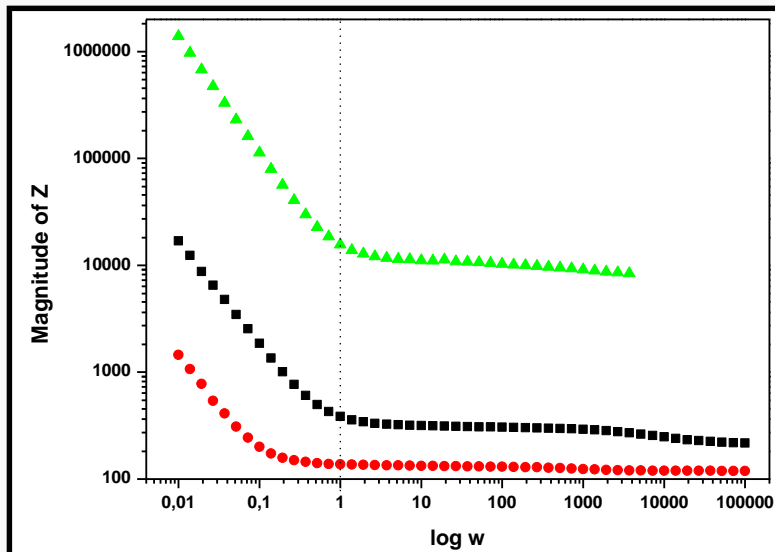
Pt



CFE



ITO



# Conclusions

Performing modern voltammetry in present time-almost impossible task without having **Modified electrodes**

Cyclic voltammetry and EIS are cheap and reliable tools for mechanistic, kinetics and thermodynamic characterization of polymers

**-In respect to the solution chemistry methods, electrochemical methods have numerous of advantages**

in respect to the polymer synthesis since

- polymerization process occurs only in a small part of the space (nearby the working electrode)

- kinetics of the polymerization process can be controlled by

Applying appropriate potential

- growth of the polymer can be controlled

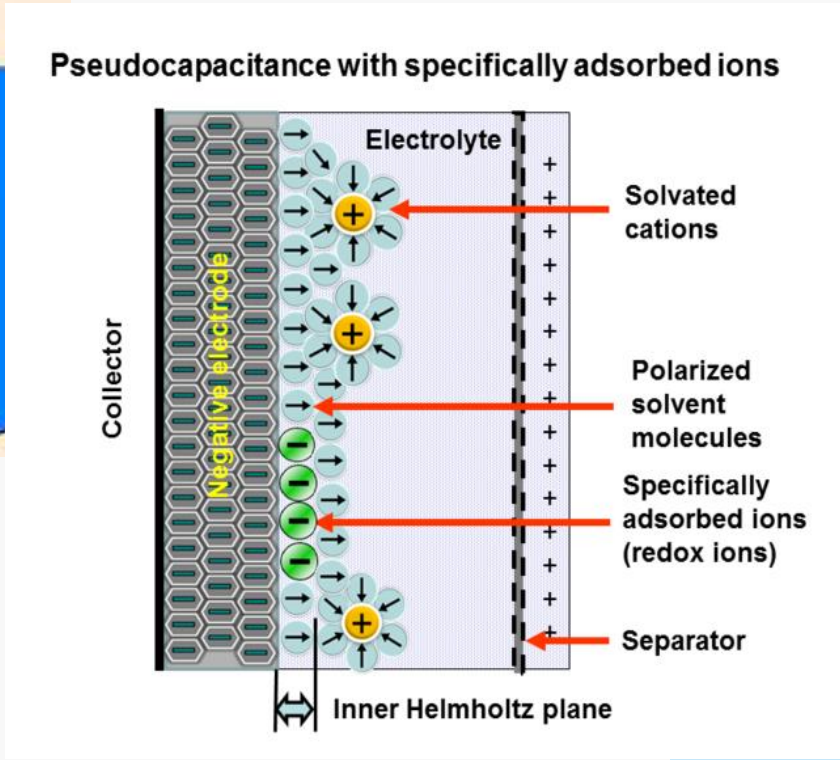
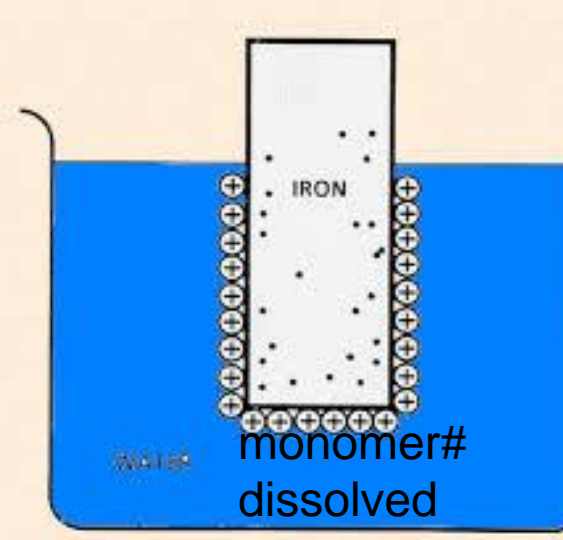
- ...

but for the structural characterization of the polymers,

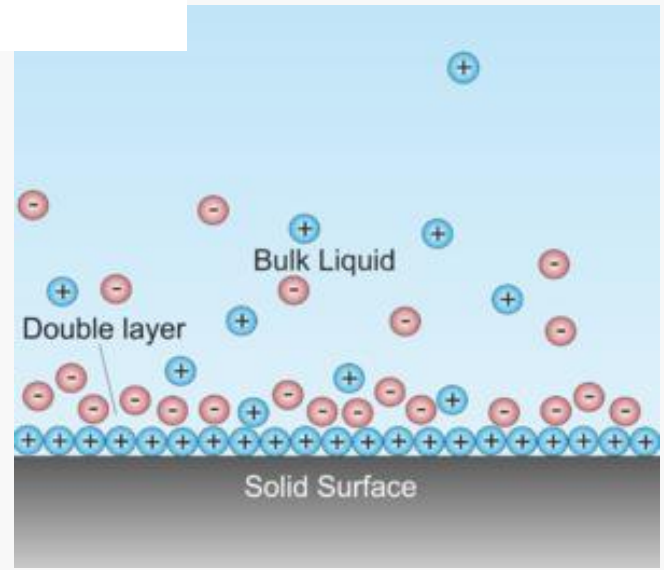
one needs to couple the

electrochemical techniques with

microscopic techniques (AFM, SEM)



In Electrochemical polymerization  
**Polymerization takes place only in a very limited space**  
 (only in electrical double layer nearby the working electrode)

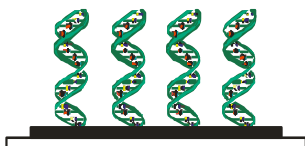




# Application of the conductive polymers in electrochemical sensors

## DNA Arrays

*Technology:* entrapping into polymer matrix during EP



*Hybridization detection:*  
fluorescence [Livache]  
development of electrochemical methods [Zhi]

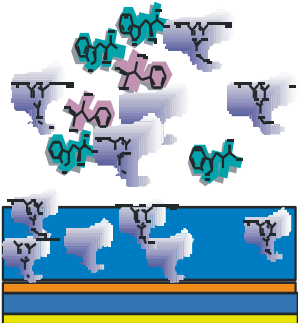
*Throughput:* currently 96 electrodes, can be simply increased up to 384

*Variations of Olygos:* currently 4, can be increased. A coupling with automated dispenser is possible

*Cell volume:* currently > 1.5 ml. Can be decreased, but it demands a new design

## Equipment for combinatorial polymer synthesis

## Molecularly imprinted polymers



MIP through electropolymerization:  
The 1-st works have been done by our co-workers (V, T), now 3 works more are published  
the main problem of MIP - optimization

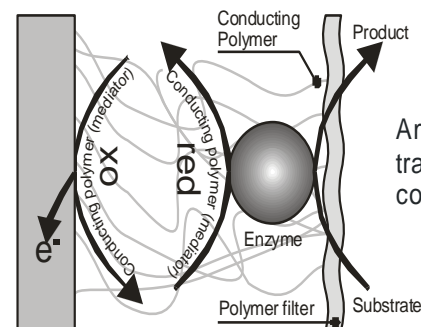
*Throughput:*  
96 experiments per chip

## Polymer filters for bio- and chemosensors

for any sensor with conductive polymers, as additional polymer layer

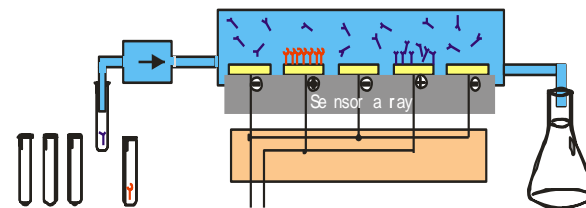
*Throughput:*  
96 experiments per chip

## Enzymatic biosensors



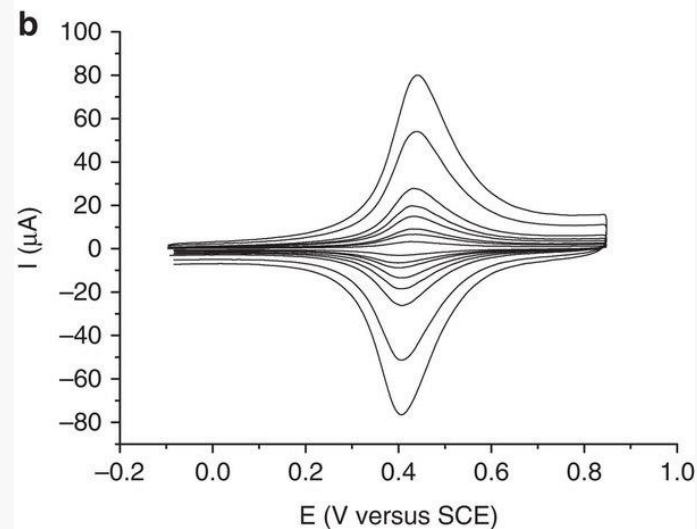
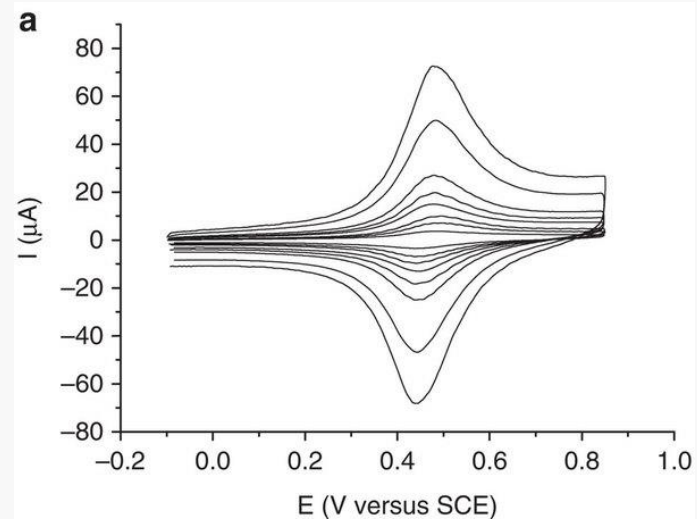
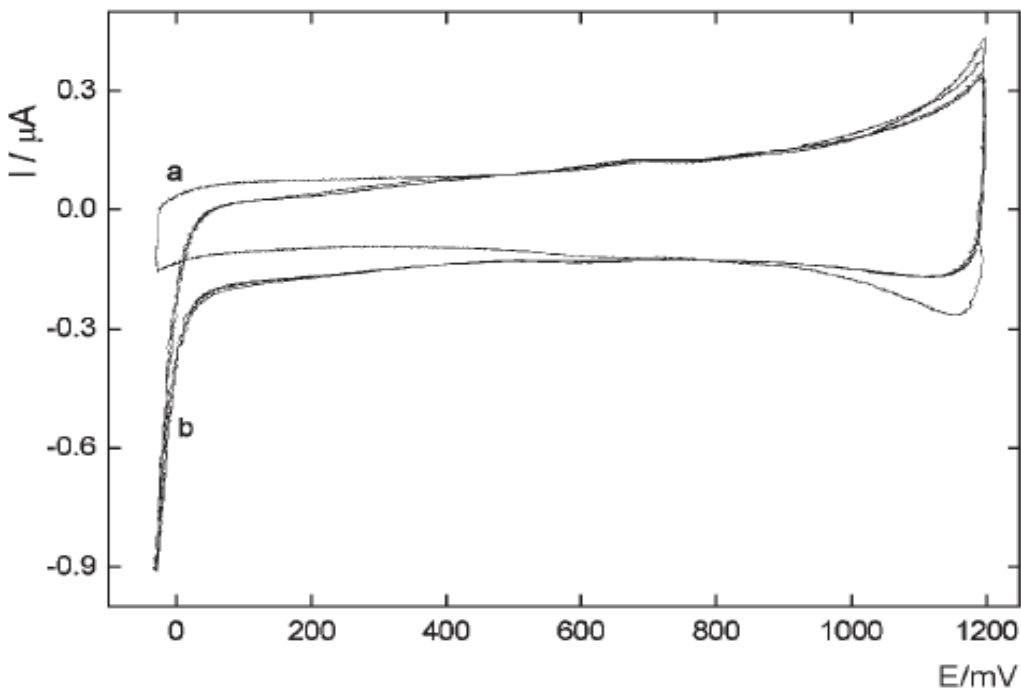
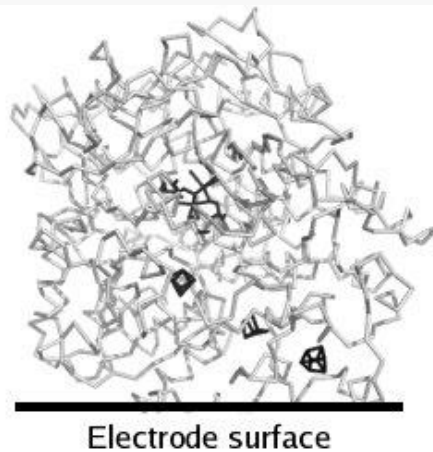
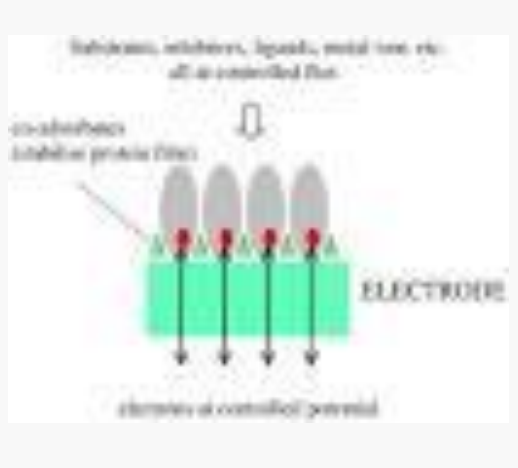
Amperometric transducing method collaboration with ...

## Electrically addressable immobilization of thiolated receptors

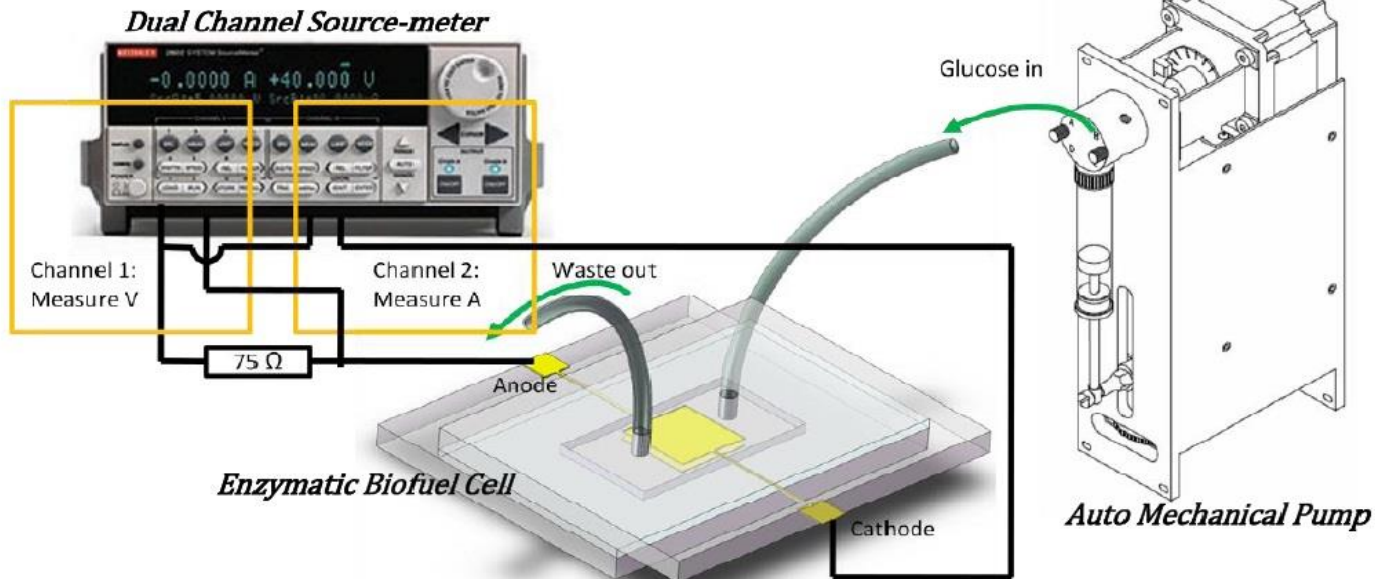
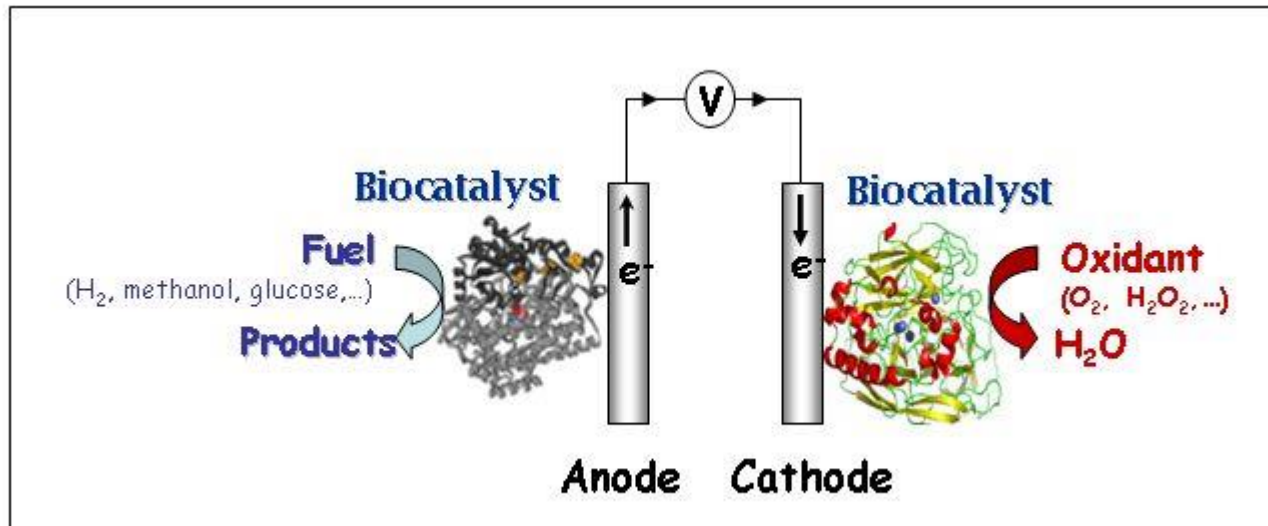


*Throughput:* currently 96 electrodes, but only up to 4 different thiols can be immobilized.  
A coupling with automated dispenser is possible

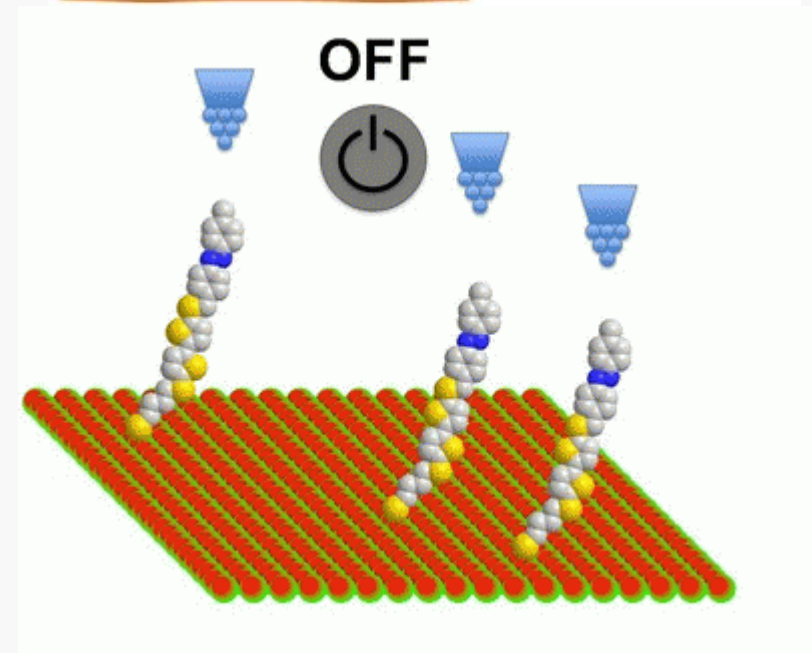
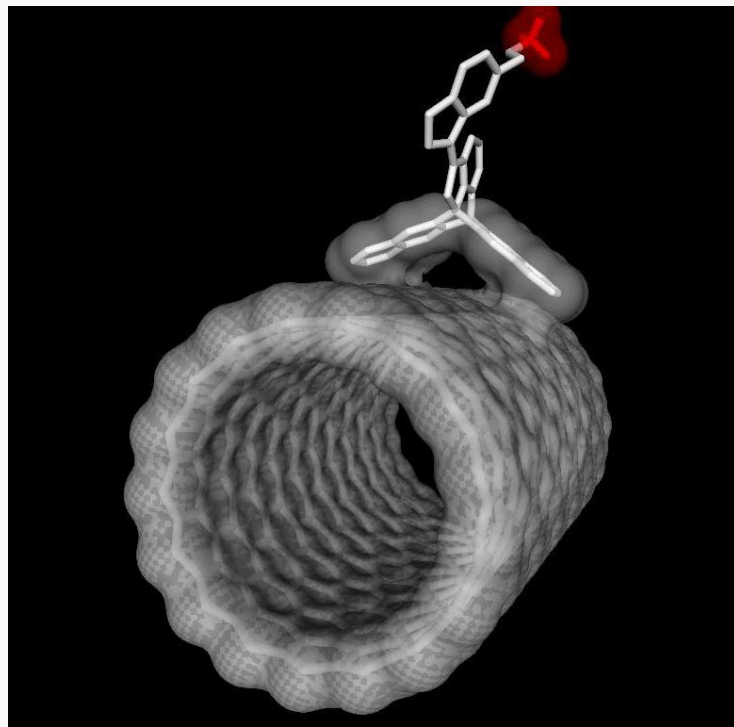
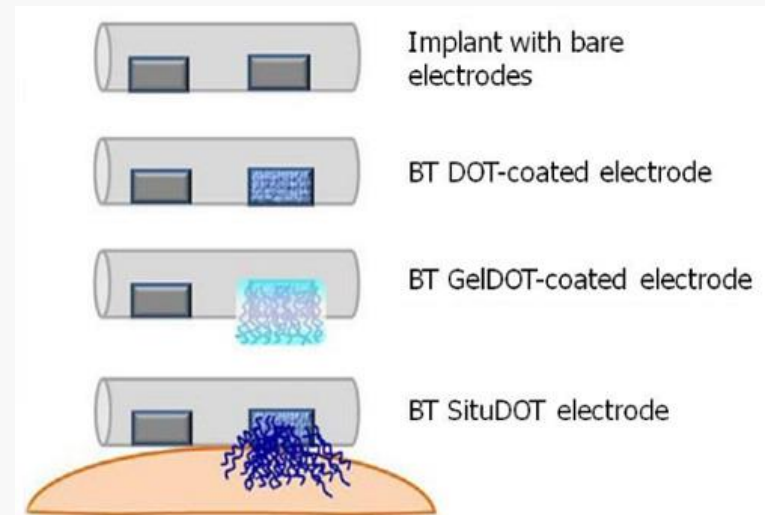
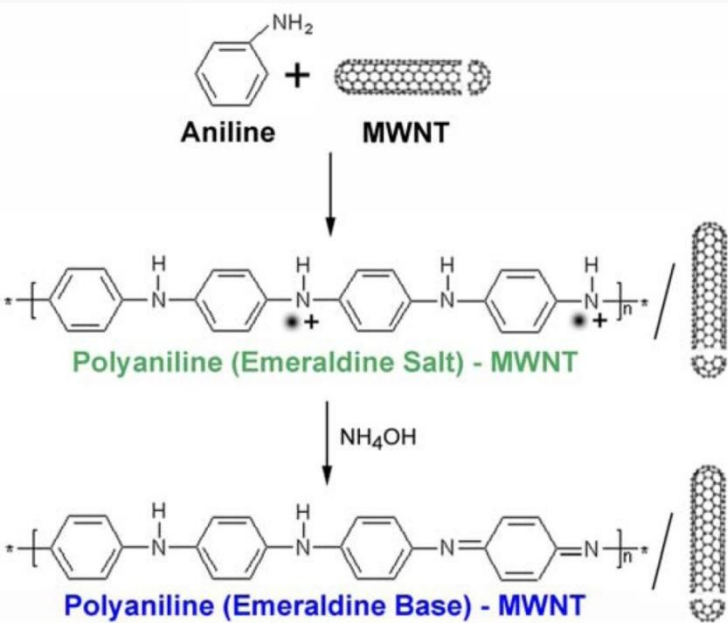
# Application of conductive polymers in protein-film voltammetry



# Application of the conductive polymers in bio-fuel cells



In the recent period, conductive polymers usually couple with nano-particles as modifiers for the working electrodes





Literature: G. Inzelt, Conductive polymers-A new Era in Electrochemistry, Springer, 2nd edition 2012





## REFERENCES

1. V. Mirceski, S. Komorsky Lovric, M. Lovric, **Square-wave voltammetry, Theory and application**, Springer, 2008
2. **Rubin Gulaboski**, Theoretical contribution towards understanding specific behaviour of “simple” protein-film reactions in square-wave voltammetry”, *Electroanalysis*, 31 (2019) 545-553.
3. **G. Inzelt, Conductive polymers-A new Era in Electrochemistry**, Springer, 2nd edition 2012
4. **Rubin Gulaboski**, P. Kokoskarova, S. Petkovska, Time independent methodology to assess Michaelis Menten constant by exploring electrochemical-catalytic mechanism in protein-film cyclic staircase voltammetry, *Croat. Chem. Acta*, 91 (2018) 377-382.
5. **Rubin Gulaboski**, I. Bogeski, P. Kokoskarova, H. H. Haeri, S. Mitrev, M. Stefova, Marina, J. Stanoeva-Petreska, V. Markovski, V. Mirceski, M. Hoth, and R. Kappl, *New insights into the chemistry of Coenzyme Q-0: A voltammetric and spectroscopic study*. *Bioelectrochemistry* 111 (2016) 100-108.
6. **Rubin Gulaboski**, V. Markovski, and Z. Jihe, *Redox chemistry of coenzyme Q—a short overview of the voltammetric features*, *Journal of Solid State Electrochemistry* 20 (2016) 3229-3238.
7. Haeri, Haleh H. I. Bogeski, **Rubin Gulaboski**, V. Mirceski, M. Hoth, and R. Kappl, *An EPR and DFT study on the primary radical formed in hydroxylation reactions of 2,6-dimethoxy-1,4-benzoquinone*. *Mol. Phys.* 114 (2016) 1856-1866.
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