

Responsive Functional Materials

Assist.-Prof. Dr. Heidi A. Schwartz

Photoactive Hybrid Materials

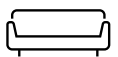
Universität Innsbruck



<https://www.uibk.ac.at/en/aatc/ag-schwartz/>



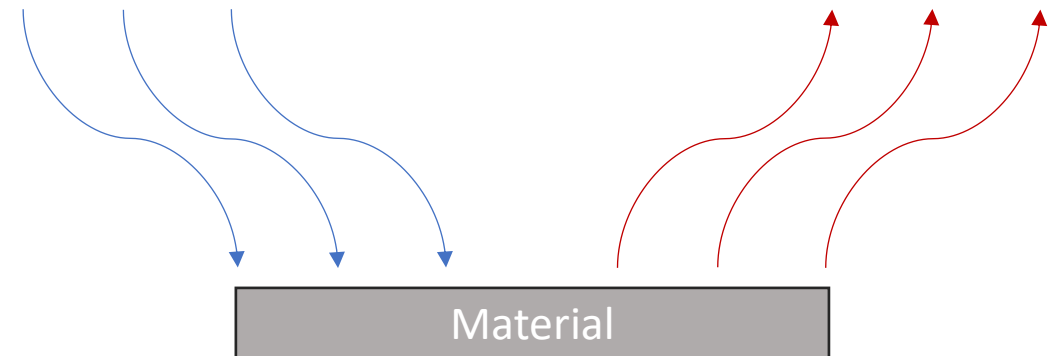
heidi.schwartz@uibk.ac.at



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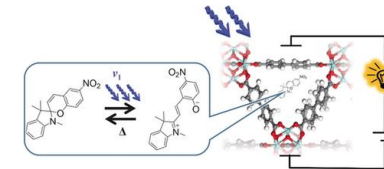
External stimuli

Functionality

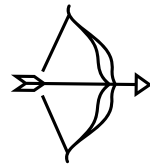


Outline for today's lecture

1. Short conclusion of last lecture



2. Learning objectives



- Fundamentals and functional materials in everyday life II

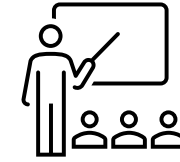


- Next time: Analyzation tools and characterization methods I





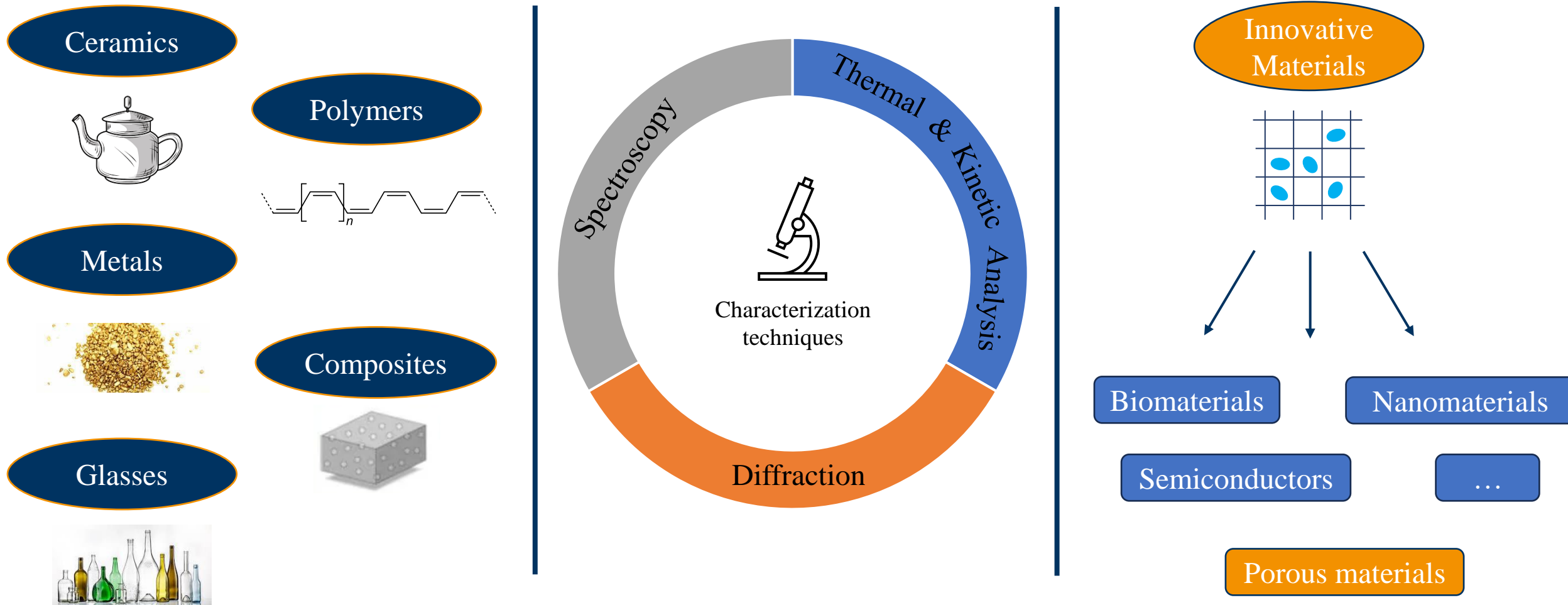
What you will learn the next weeks



1. Introduction into Material Sciences I
- 2. Introduction into Material Sciences II**
3. Analyzation Tools I
4. Analyzation Tools II
5. Porous Materials I
6. Invited Speaker: Artem Mikhailov (Nancy)
7. Porous Materials II
8. Responsive materials
9. Photochromism and Luminescence
10. Hybrid Materials

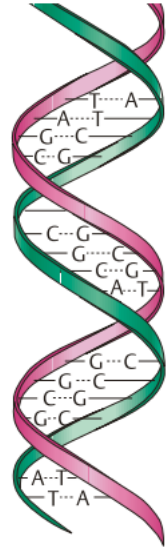


A functional material could be defined as being prepared from a “target-motivated” approach



Polymers – nothing would work without them

“Polymers” are chemical compounds, which are build up from repetitively connected macromolecules. They are divided into biopolymers and synthetic polymers.



DNS, the most important polymer.

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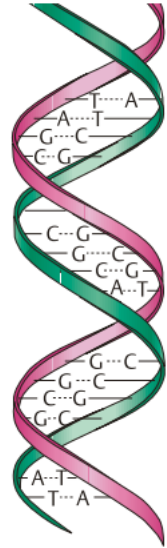
Types of polymers

Homopolymers and Copolymers

Polyethylene
Polypropylene
Polyvinylchloride
Natural rubber

Most biopolymers
Butyl rubber
Acrylonitrile butadiene
styrene

💡 **Note:** polymers can also be inorganic
e.g., polysiloxanes!



DNS, the most important polymer.

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PET bottles.



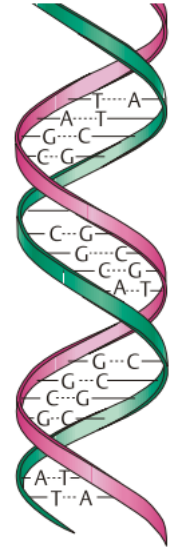
Copolymer ABS.



Chitin.

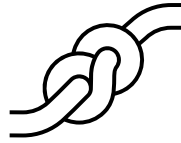


Nylon.



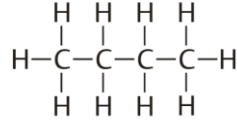
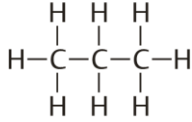
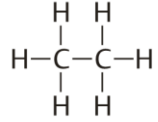
DNS, the most important polymer.

Bonding situation

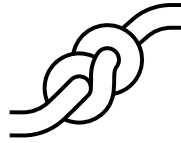


Fundamentals structure organic molecules

Most organic molecules are hydrocarbons, where C and H are covalently bound.

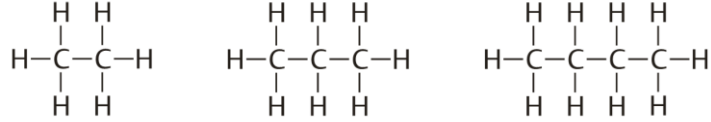


Bonding situation



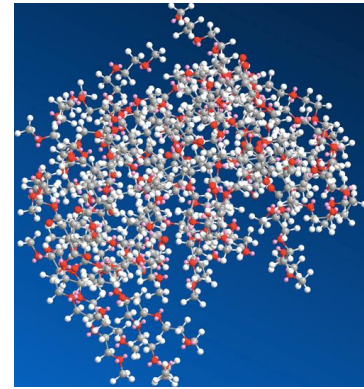
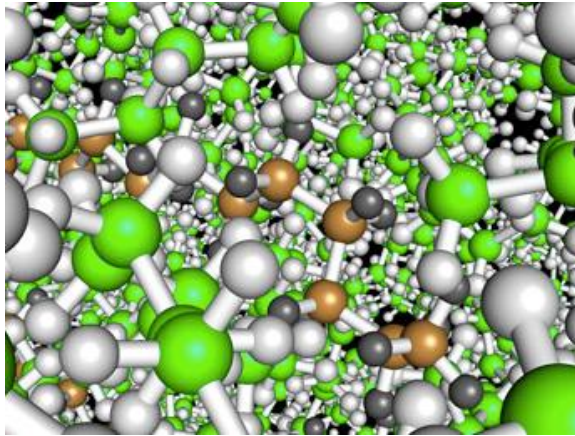
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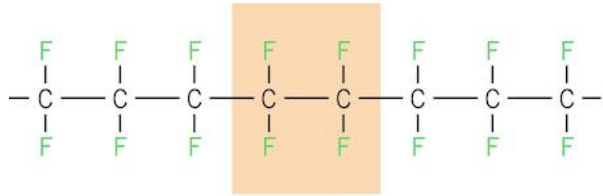


Polymers – made up of many monomers!

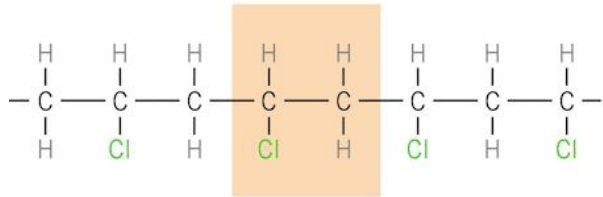
Polymers are very large molecules – macromolecules – consisting of repeating subunits. These units can be the same (homopolymer) and differ from each other (copolymer).



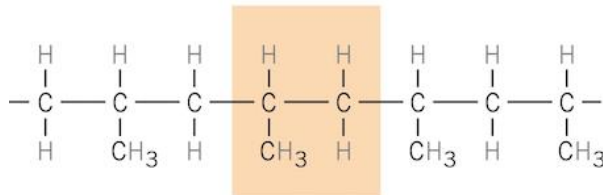
Typical repetition units



Polytetrafluorethylene

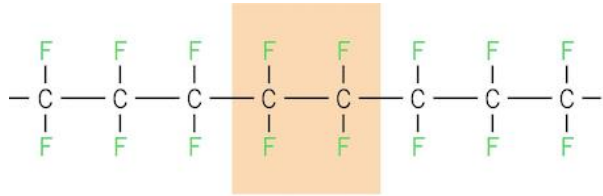


Polyvinylchloride

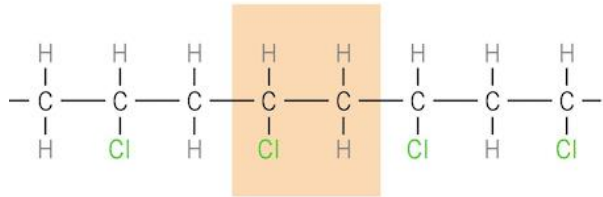


Polypropylene

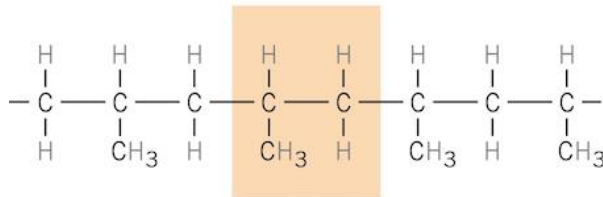
Typical repetition units



Polytetrafluorethylene



Polyvinylchloride



Polypropylene

Polyethylen (PE)

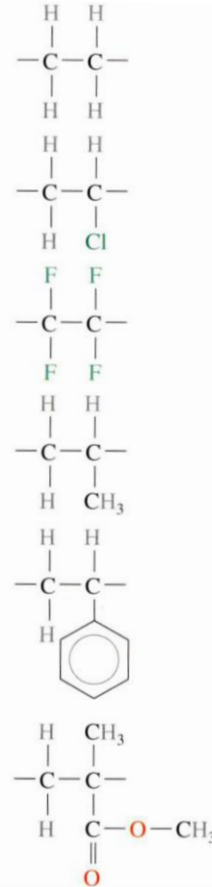
Polyvinylchlorid (PVC)

Polytetrafluorethylen (PTFE)

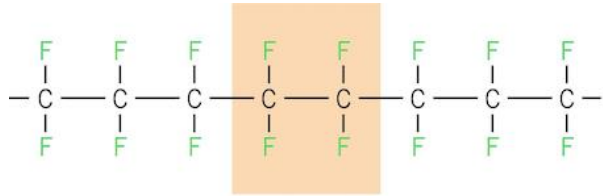
Polypropylen (PP)

Polystyrol (PS)

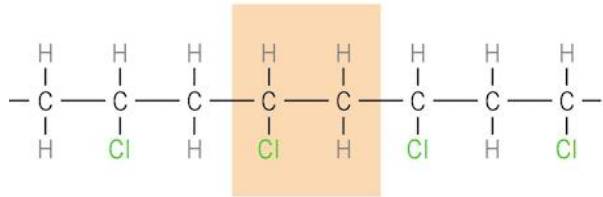
Polymethylmethacrylat (PMMA)



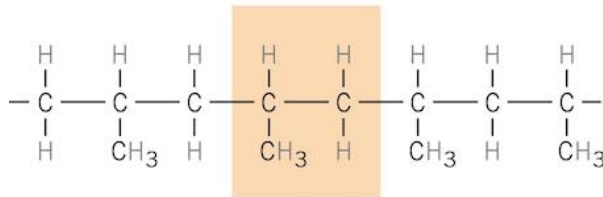
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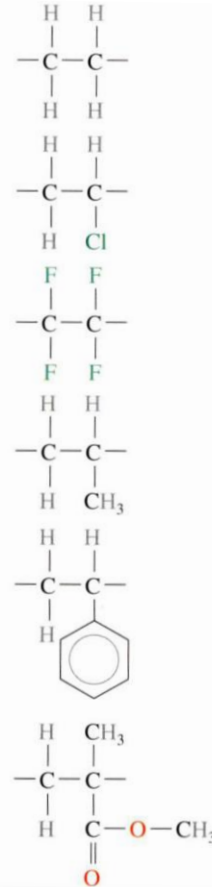
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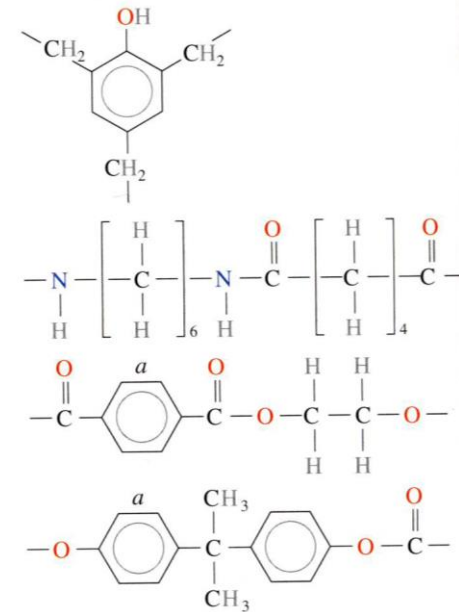
Phenolformaldehydharz (Bakelit)

Polyhexamethylenadipamid
(Polyamid PA 6,6 Nylon)

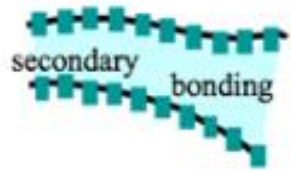
Polyethylenterephthalat (PET, ein Polyester)

Polykarbonat (PC)

Das Symbol *a* bezeichnet einen aromatischen Ring.



Basic Polymer Structures

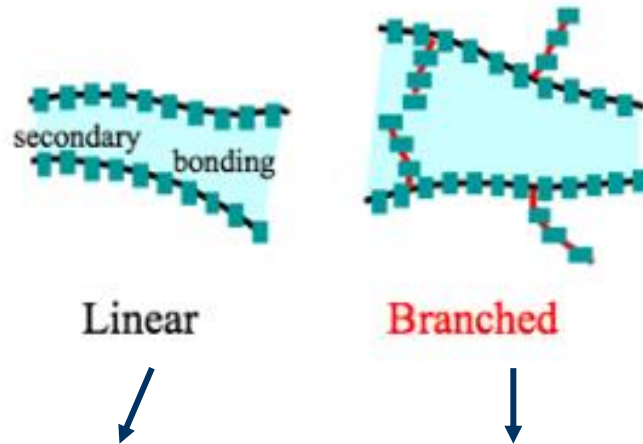


Linear



- *van der Waals* or H bonding
- material can be re-molded by heating
- thermoplastics

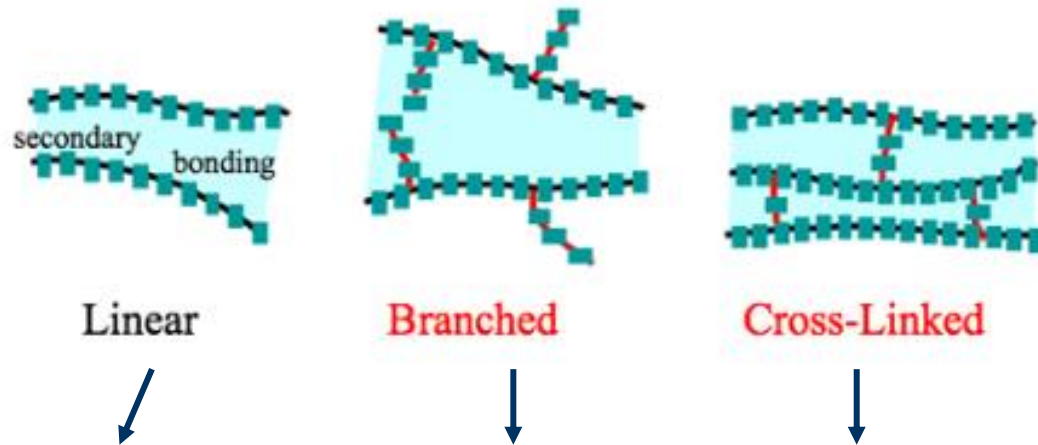
Basic Polymer Structures



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- shorter chains
- less dense than lp
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Basic Polymer Structures

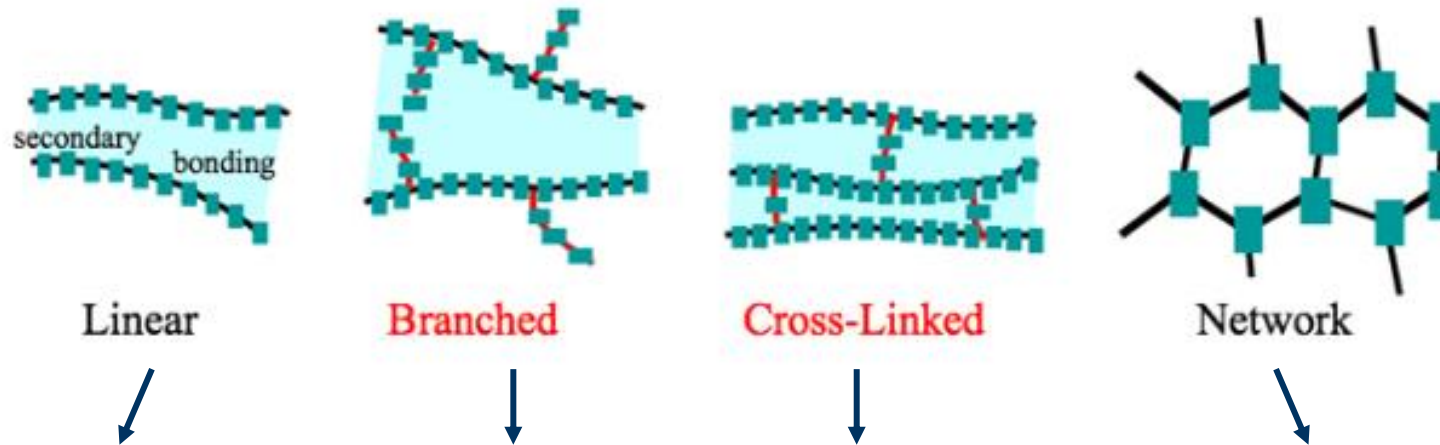


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- resemble ladders with linked chains
- covalent bonds
- thermosets

Basic Polymer Structures



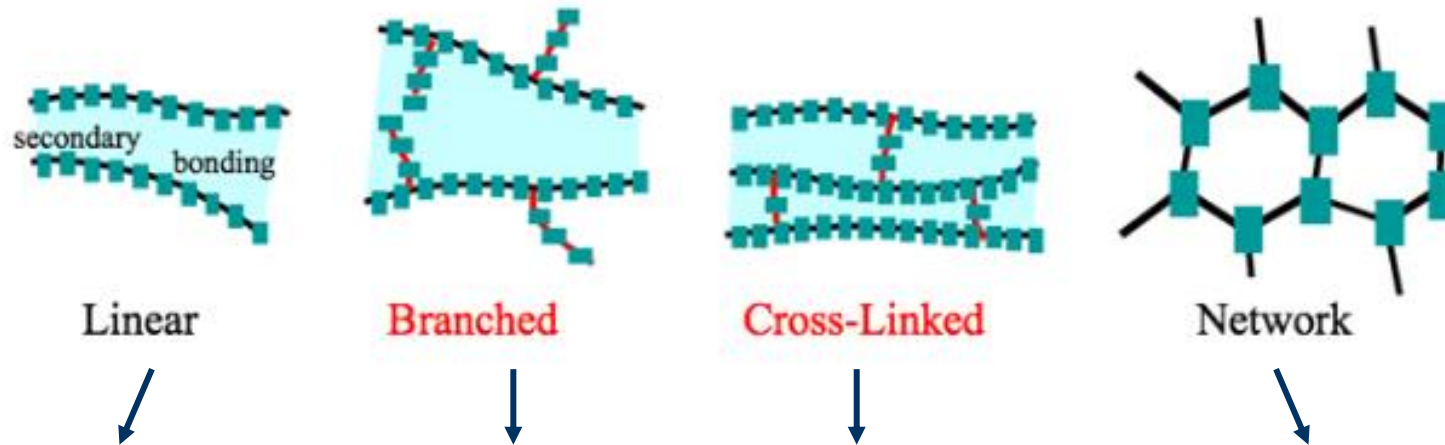
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- nearly impossible to soften → degrading
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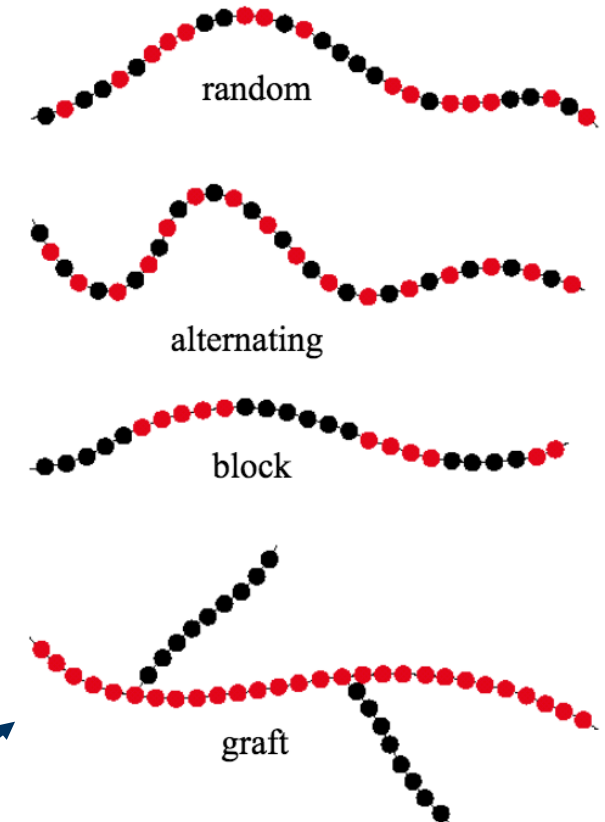
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Copolymers

Two distinct starting monomers lead to several possible structures: **random**, **alternating**, **block** and **graft**.

Randomly ordered monomers result in a **random** copolymer.

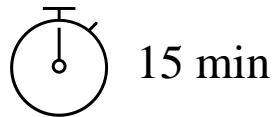


Group-/Tandem-Work

Which biopolymers you know?

Where do we find polymers in our daily life?

What are they used for?



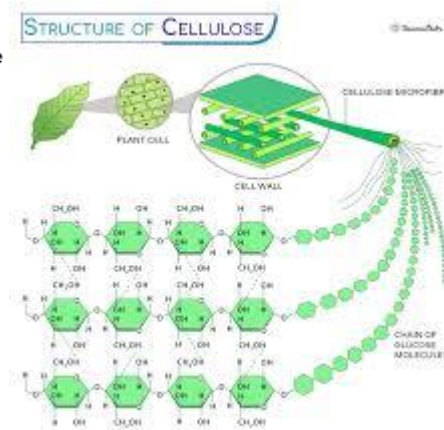
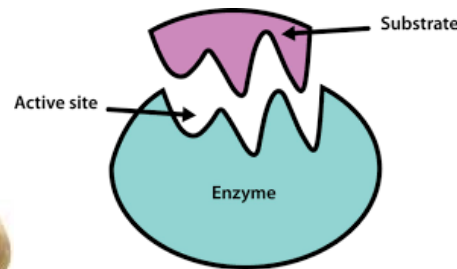
Biopolymers and ...

IUPAC: Biopolymers are polymers produced by living organisms. Three main classes of biopolymers: polynucleotides, polypeptides and polysaccharides.

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Proteins
Enzymes
Starch
Cellulose



Wood
Rubber
Wool
Leather
Silk
Cotton

William D. Callister, David G. Rethwisch, Materialwissenschaften und Werkstofftechnik, WILEY-VCH, 2013.

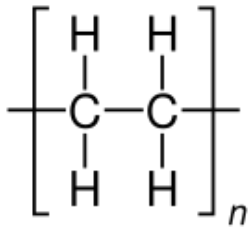
[Biopolymer – Wikipedia](#) (24th February, 2025)

... synthetic polymers

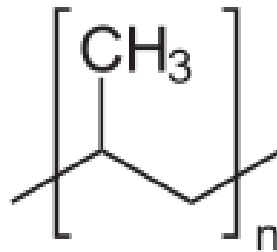
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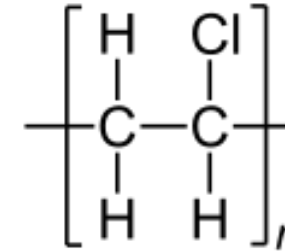
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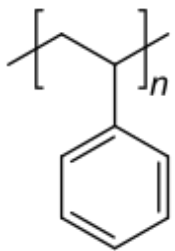
Polyethylene



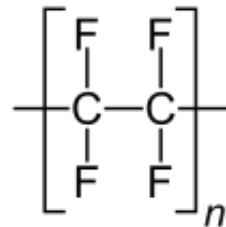
Polypropylene



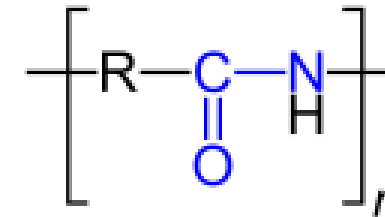
Polyvinylchloride



Polystyrene



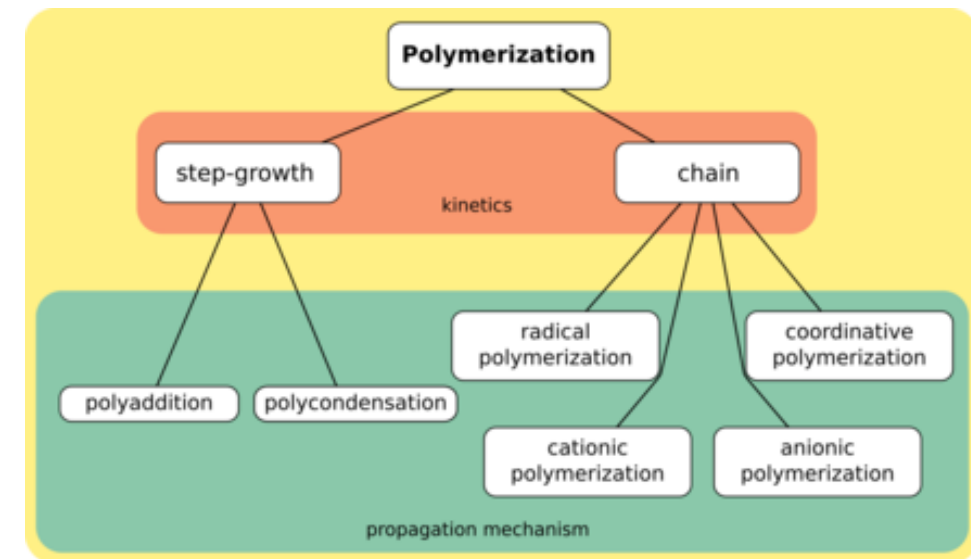
Polytetrafluormethylene



Polyamide

Classification and technically relevant properties

Synthesis of polymers is done *via* three ways: polymerization, addition polymerization and condensation polymerization of (different) monomers.



Details on Synthesis

Polymerization reactions can occur in bulk (without solvent) in solution, emulsion, suspension, or a gas-phase.

Chain growth mechanism

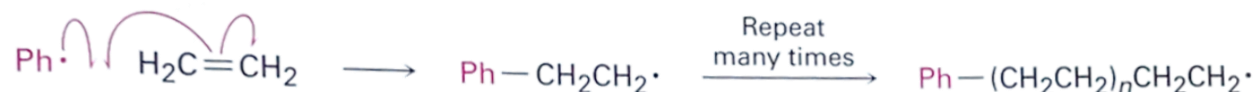
An initiator adds to a carbon-carbon double bond of an unsaturated substrate to yield a reactive intermediate (initiation). Intermediate reacts with a second molecule (propagation). Chain termination occurs by reaction with another reactive species.

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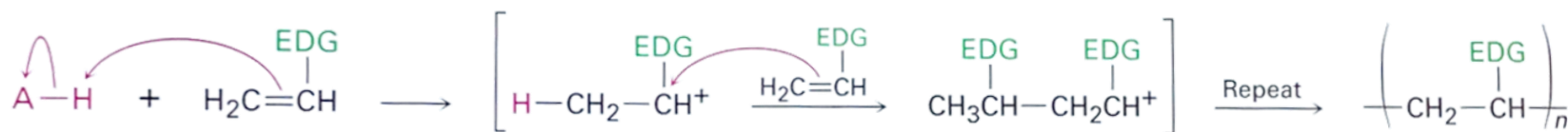
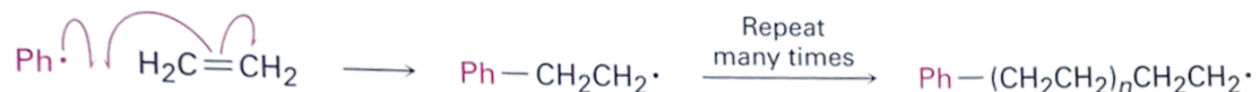


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where EDG = an electron-donating group

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Step growth mechanism

Each bond is formed step-wise, independently of the others. Most step-growth polymers are formed by the reaction of two difunctional reactants.

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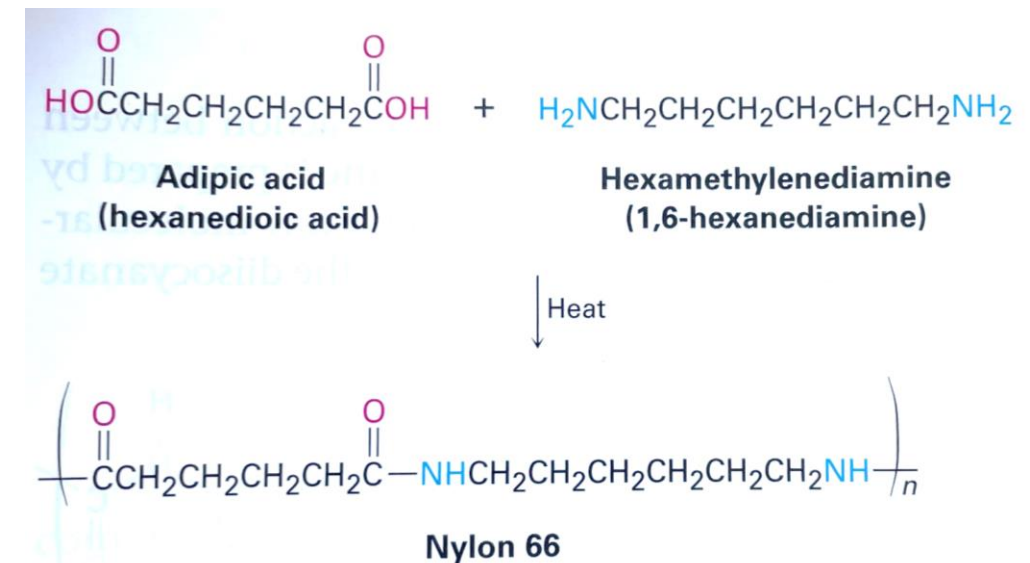
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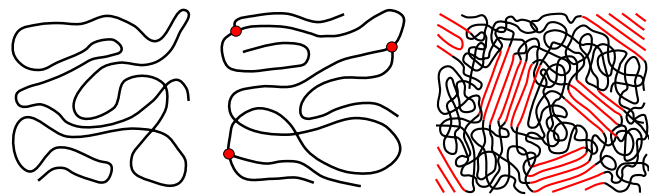
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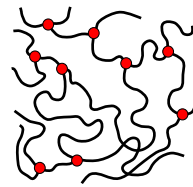


Classification and technically relevant properties

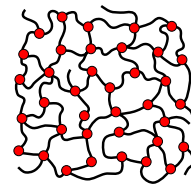
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thermoplastics

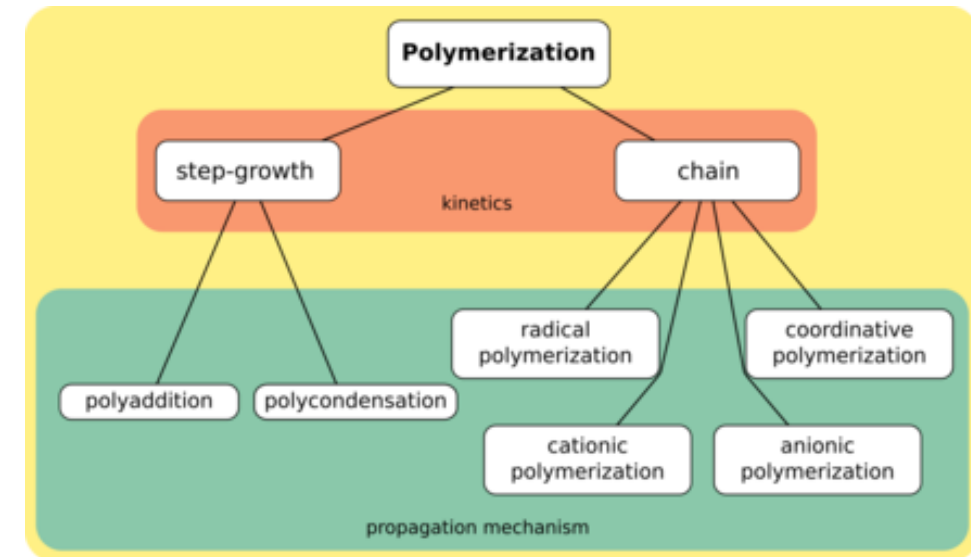


elastomers



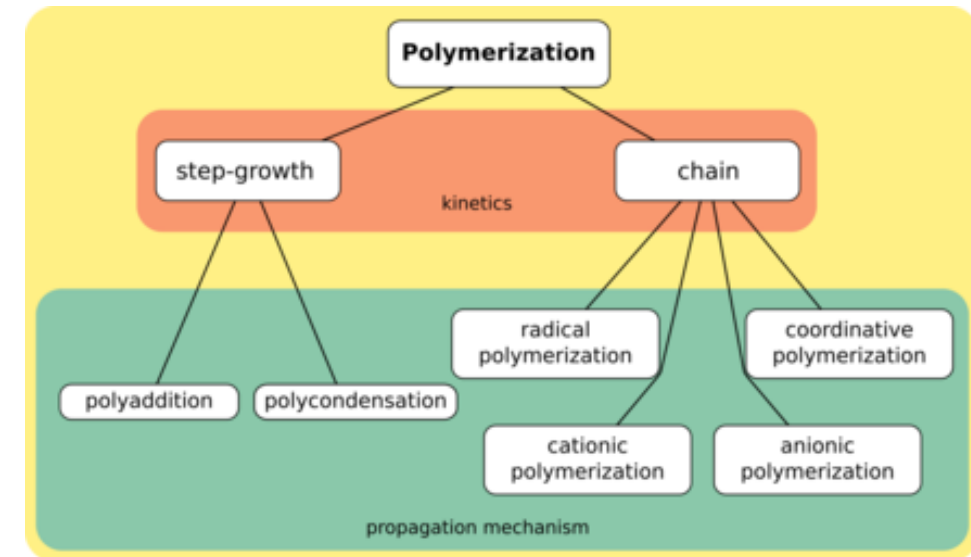
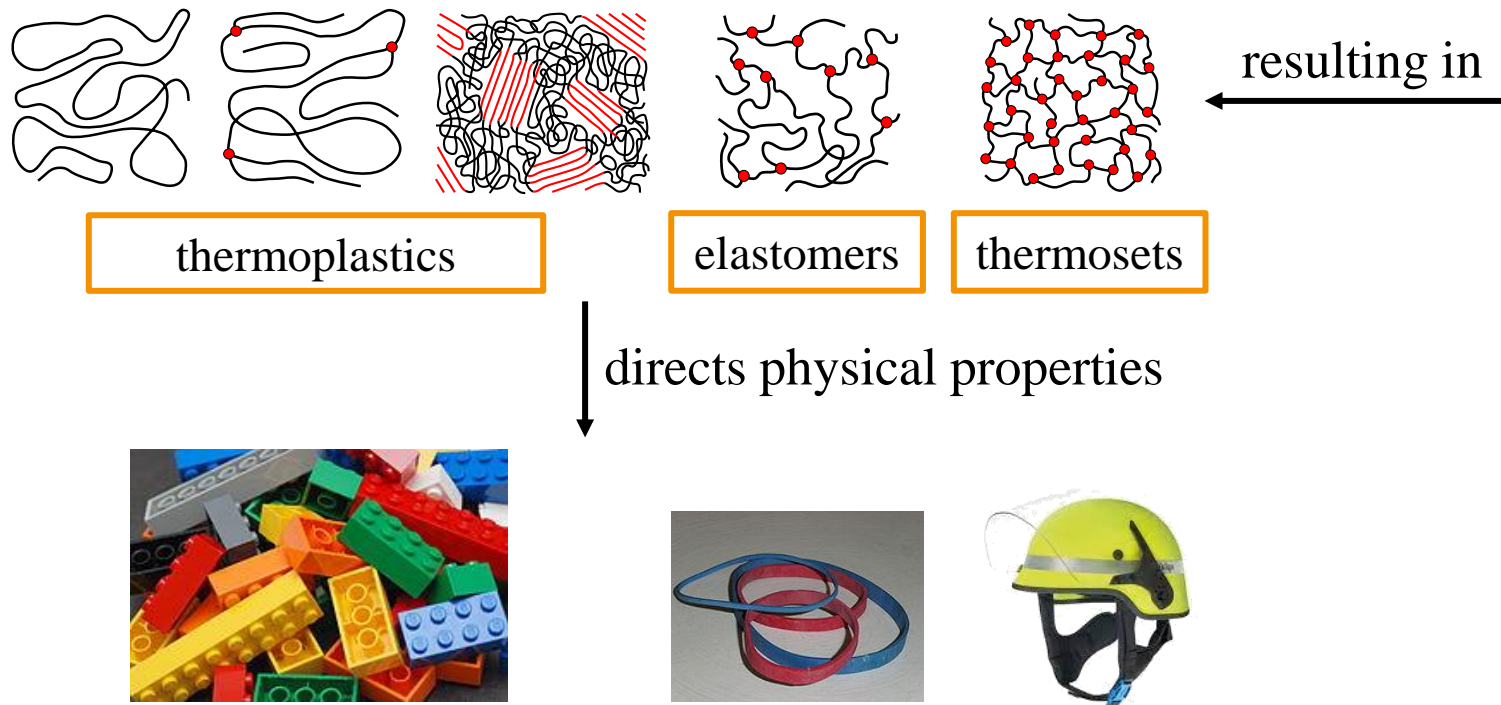
thermosets

resulting in



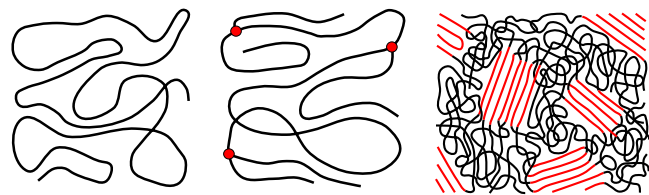
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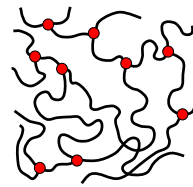


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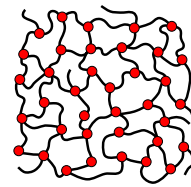
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thermoplastics



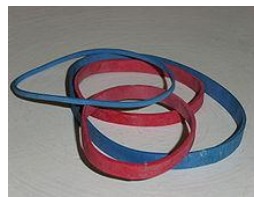
elastomers



thermosets

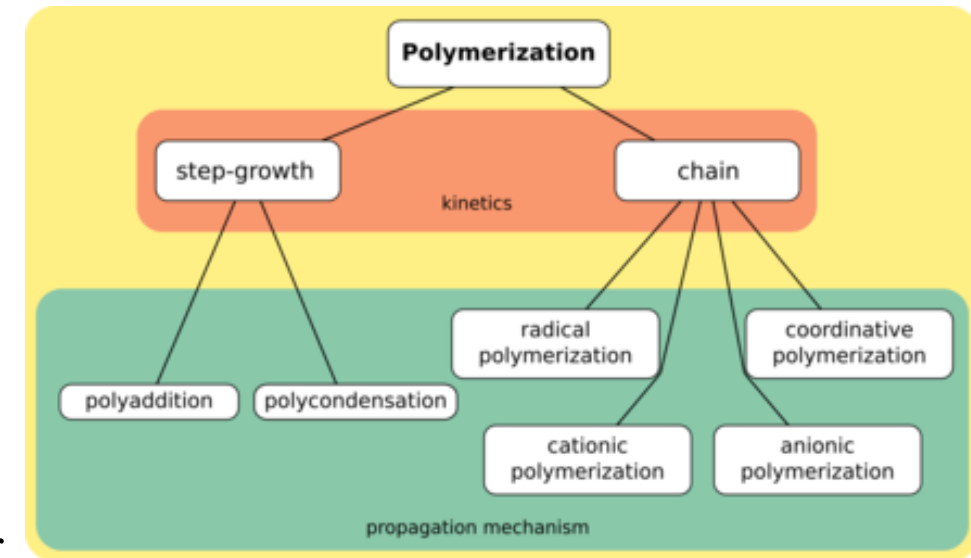
resulting in

directs physical properties



further applications

Conductive polymers for solarcells, (O)LEDs,...



Applications of polymers



Applications of polymers

Only one out of 50 teeth had the quality standard needed
→ extinction of elephants

← problem



Until 1912, made from ivory.

Applications of polymers

Only one out of 50 teeth had the quality standard needed
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problem

First alternative: Pressed mixture of wood pulp and bone meal. – **Unsuitable** –
Better alternative: One of the first synthetic polymers: **Phenol-formaldehyde resin**, also called **phenoplast**



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Leo Baekeland, who attempted to create a synthetic version of shellac
Reaction of **phenol** with **formaldehyde**



The product is a **liquid** that slowly solidifies into a **transparent, amber-colored solid**

Named by the inventor: Bakelite



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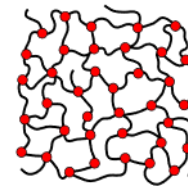
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Named by the inventor: Bakelite

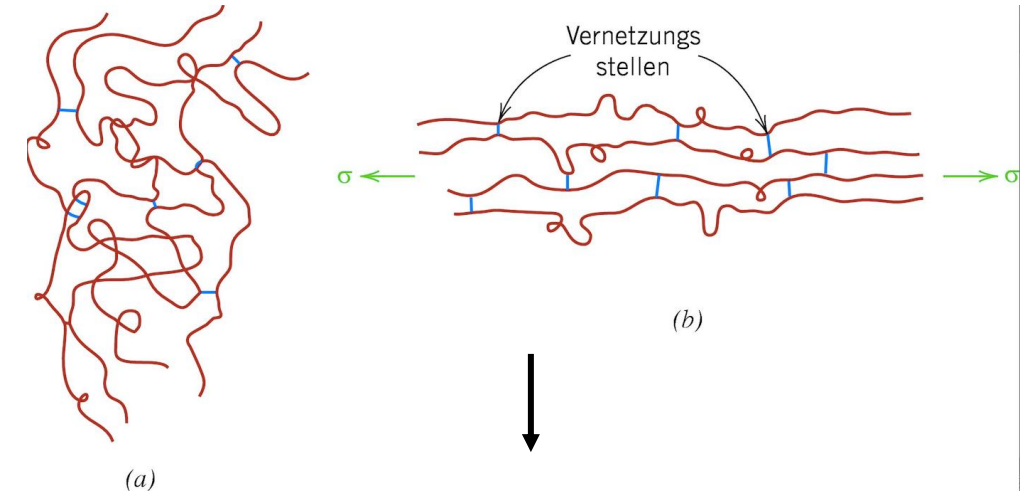
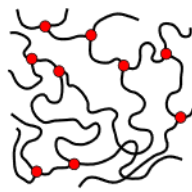
Phenol-formaldehyde is a **thermosetting polymer (thermoset)**
Heat-resistant and hard, as well as **significantly less brittle than many ceramics**
Relatively **inexpensive** and **easily colorable**
Elastic properties are **very similar to those of ivory**



Until 1912, made from ivory.



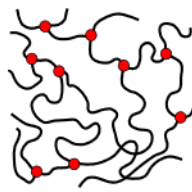
Elastomers



Main properties

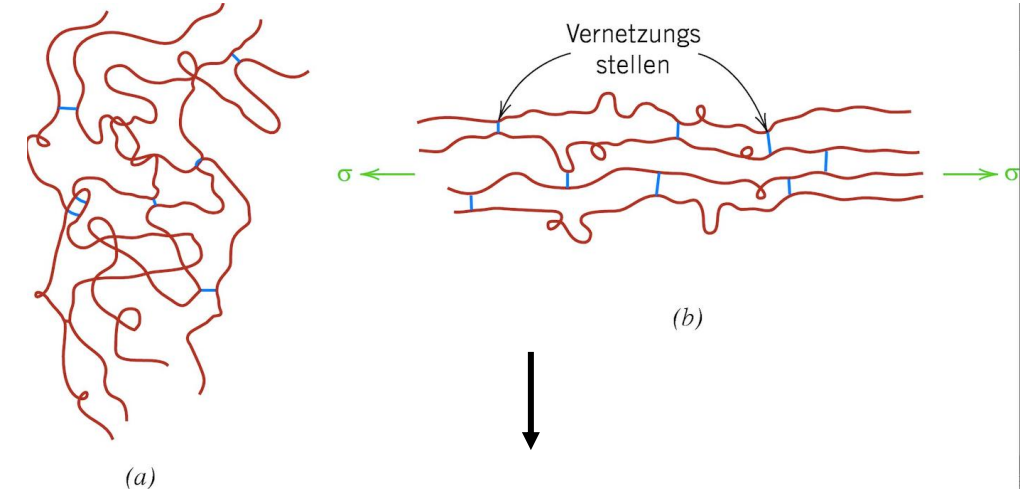
- very flexible at low temperatures
- weak intermolecular forces – extensive stretching
- specific working temperature varies depending on seal design and media compatibility

Elastomers



Natural rubber

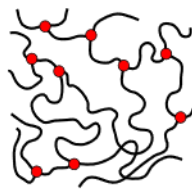
Most important synthetic elastomer: **SBR – Styrene-butadiene copolymer (Buna S)**;
mixed with carbon black: **car tires**



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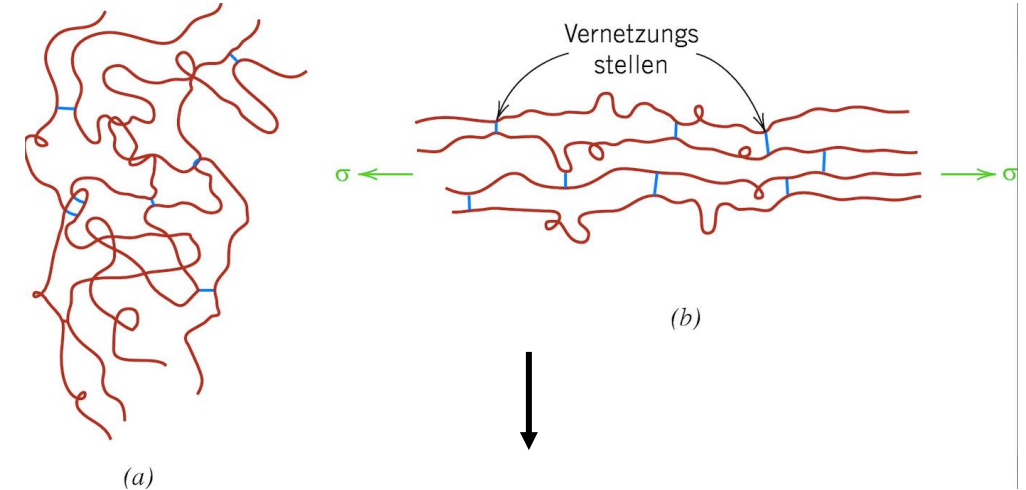


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Silicone rubbers

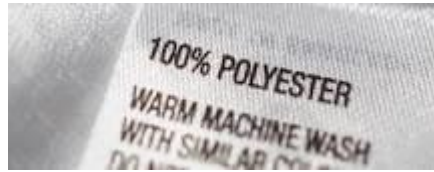
- High flexibility over a wide temperature range (-90 to +250 °C)
- High **biocompatibility**, making them well-suited for **medical applications** (tubing for blood and blood products)
- Good **vulcanizability** at RT (**RTV resins: room temperature vulcanization**)



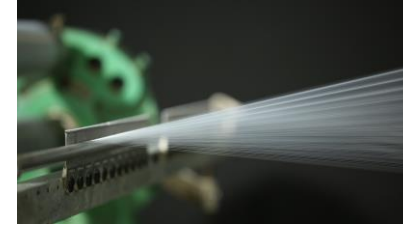
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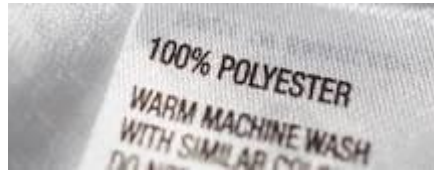
Fibres



Polymer fibres can be drawn into long filaments with a length-to-diameter ratio of 100:1



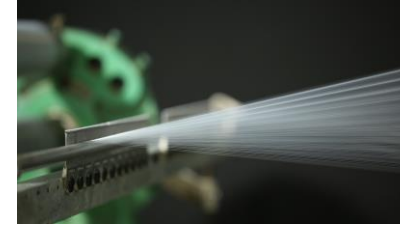
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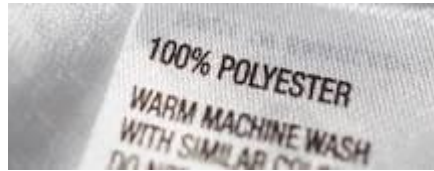
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Used in the textile industry

- **Stretching, twisting, shearing, and abrasion** must meet high requirements of the textile industry
- **High tensile strength, elastic modulus & abrasion resistance**
- The **molecular weight of the polymer must be relatively high**, otherwise, the melt becomes too thin during the drawing process, causing the fibre to break
- **Tensile strength increases with crystallinity**, so **highly crystalline polymers are preferred**



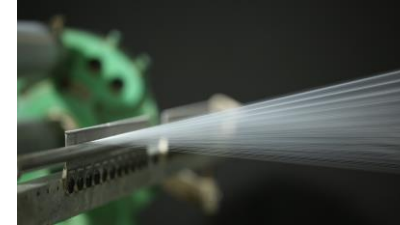
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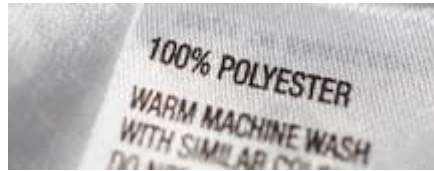
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 - **Flame-resistant and suitable for tumble drying**



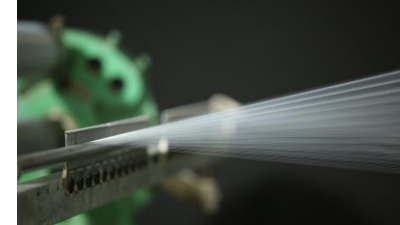
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Where to find polymer fibres

- Polyester, Polyamide and Elasthane (textiles)
- Polyacryl (mostly wool-analogue textiles)
- Aramid (fracture- and impact-resistant – armour textiles, formula 1, ...)
- Polypropylene (functional textiles, underwear)
- ...

Coatings / Lacquers



Coatings / Lacquers



Properties and functions

- Liquid or powdery
- Chemical or physical processes lead to a thin coating
- consist of binders, such as resins, dispersions, or emulsions, as well as fillers, pigments, solvents, and additives

William D. Callister, David G. Rethwisch, Materialwissenschaften und Werkstofftechnik, WILEY-VCH, 2013.

[Lack – Wikipedia](#) (24th February, 2025)

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Coatings are applied to surfaces with the purpose of:

- **Protection:** Protecting the object from environmental influences
- **Decoration:** Enhancing the appearance
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Many components of **coating materials** are **polymers**, mostly of **organic origin**, such as:

- **Paint**
- **Varnish**
- **Enamel**
- **Clear lacquer**
- **Shellac** (a **natural polymer**, secreted by the **lac bug**)

Latices (**Latex** is a stable **suspension** of small, **insoluble polymer particles** in water)



Two types of bonding mechanisms

Mechanical/physical:

- Adhesive penetrates **pores and crevices** of the surface
- **Interlocking** on a microscopic level
- Drying, cooling, gel formation

Chemical:

- **Intermolecular forces** between the surface and the adhesive
- Includes both **covalent bonds & *van der Waals* forces**
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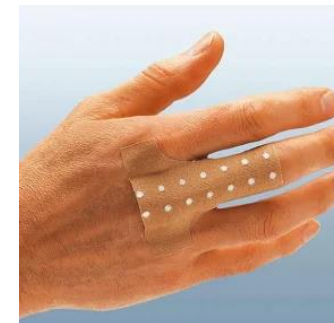
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Natural adhesives

Bone glue, casein, starch, resin

Synthetic adhesives (*Advantage: different materials can be bonded together, such as metals, ceramics, polymers, composites, leather, and combinations of these*)

Polyurethanes, Polysiloxanes, Polyimides, Acrylics, Rubbers



Adhesives



Selection factors of adhesives

- **Type of materials** to be bonded
- **Expected adhesive properties** (permanent or temporary bond)
- **Max. and min. operating temperatures**
- **Processing conditions**

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Key Adhesive Properties

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High shear strength, peel resistance & fracture resistance

Advantages of Adhesive Bonding

- Lower weight
- Ability to bond thin components
- Higher fatigue resistance
- Lower process costs
- Precise positioning
- Fast application



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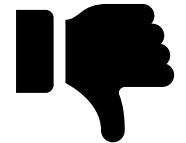
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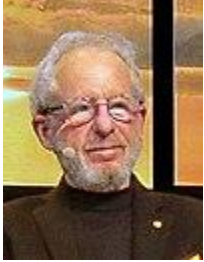


Disadvantages of Adhesive Bonding

- Temperature sensitive (max. 300 °C)



It's not always bad to make mistakes!



“for their discovery and development of
conductive polymers”

Nobel prize in Chemistry 2000

Alan J. Heeger
Alan MacDiarmid
Hideki Shirakawa



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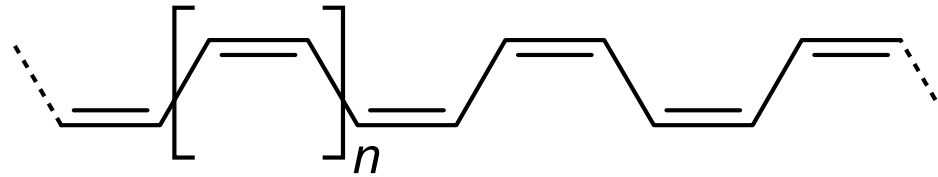


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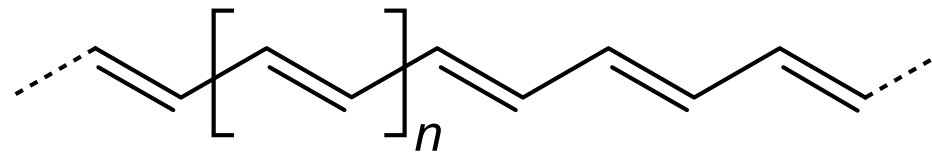
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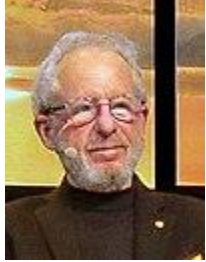


Copper colored film



Silver colored film

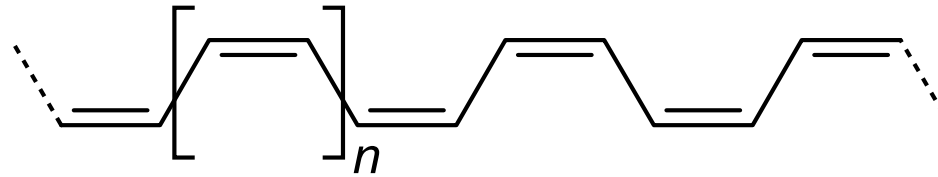
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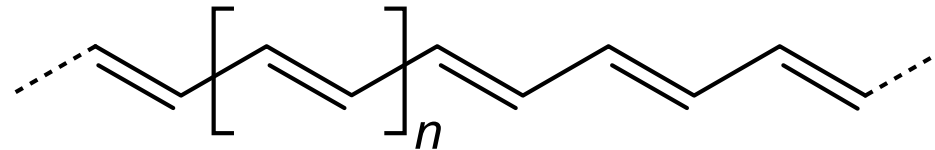
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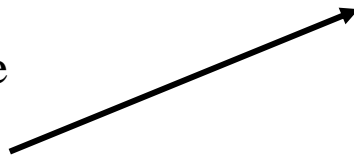


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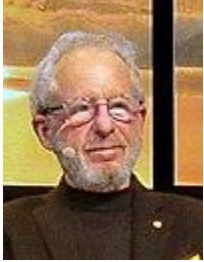


Silver colored film

Shirakawa made a mistake
during the synthesis of
polyacetylen



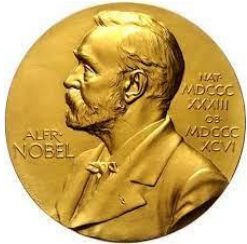
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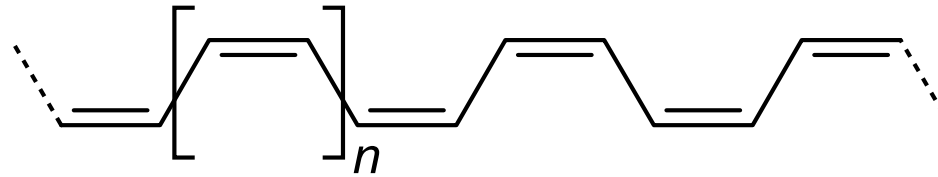
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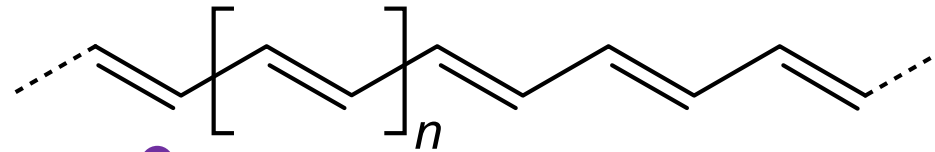
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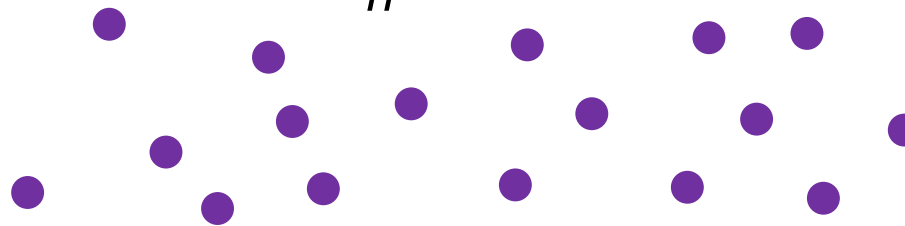
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Copper colored film



Silver colored film



Oxidation of *E*-PE with gaseous iodine

It's not always bad to make mistakes!



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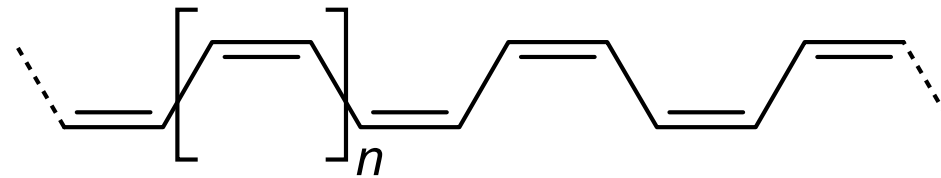
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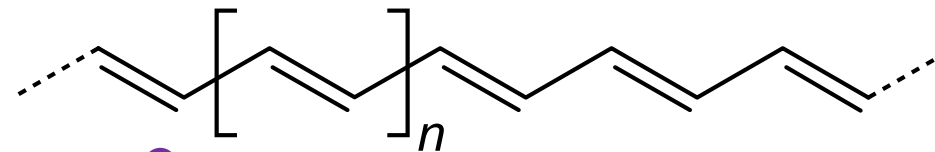


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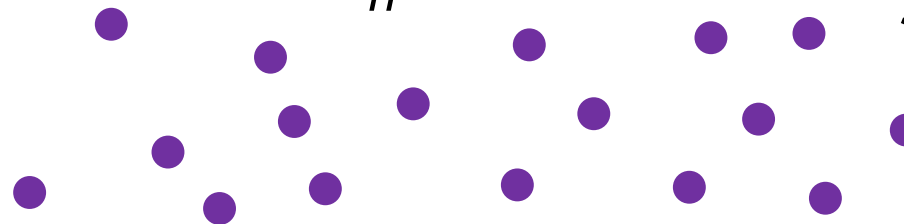
Note: Fundament for organic
electronics!



Copper colored film



Silver colored film



Oxidation of *E*-PE with gaseous iodine

as a result of impurity



3D conductance like a metal!

Problem



Linear ballistic transport along polymer chains – not between layers or strands due to missing or weak inter-molecular ordering and coupling.

Article | Published: 05 February 2025

Two-dimensional polyaniline crystal with metallic out-of-plane conductivity

[Tao Zhang](#), [Shu Chen](#), [Petko St. Petkov](#), [Peng Zhang](#), [Haoyuan Qi](#), [Nguyen Ngan Nguyen](#), [Wenjie Zhang](#), [Jiho Yoon](#), [Peining Li](#), [Thomas Brumme](#), [Alexey Alfonsov](#), [Zhongquan Liao](#), [Mike Hambsch](#), [Shunqi Xu](#), [Lars Mester](#), [Vladislav Kataev](#), [Bernd Büchner](#), [Stefan C. B. Mannsfeld](#), [Ehrenfried Zschech](#), [Stuart S. P. Parkin](#), [Ute Kaiser](#), [Thomas Heine](#) , [Renhao Dong](#) , [Rainer Hillenbrand](#)  & [Xinliang Feng](#) 

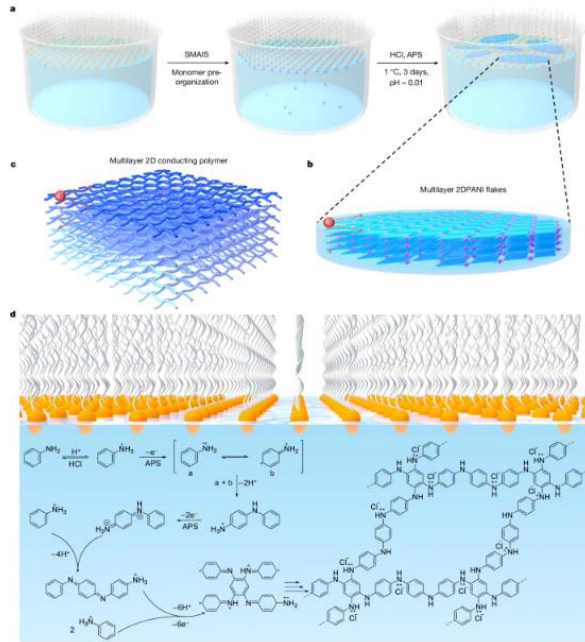
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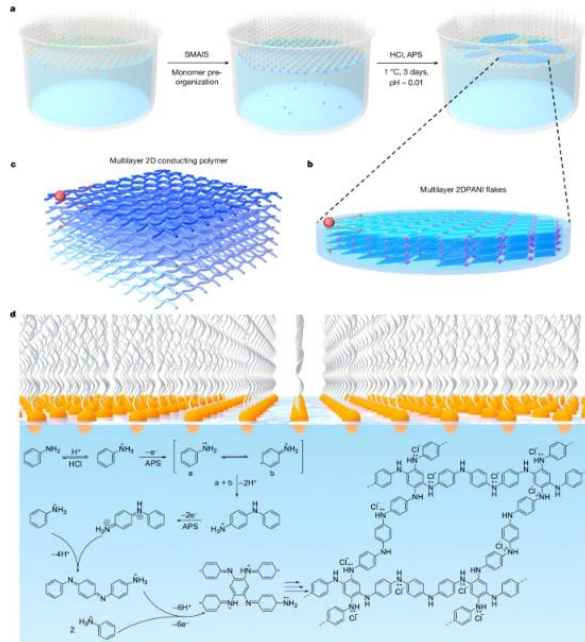
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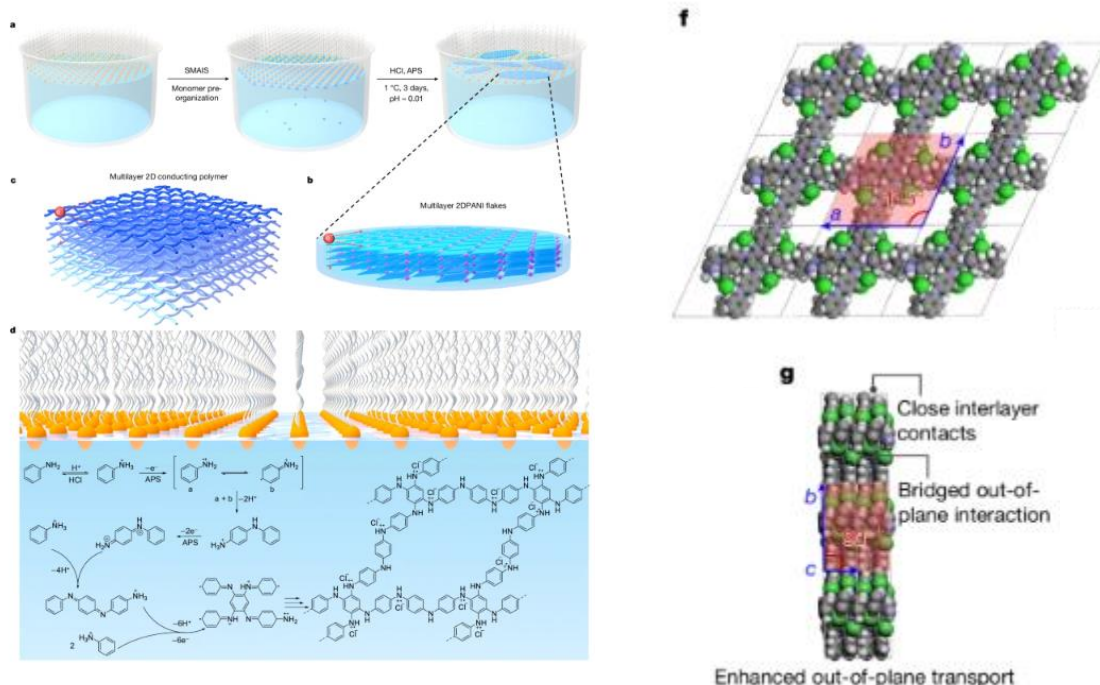
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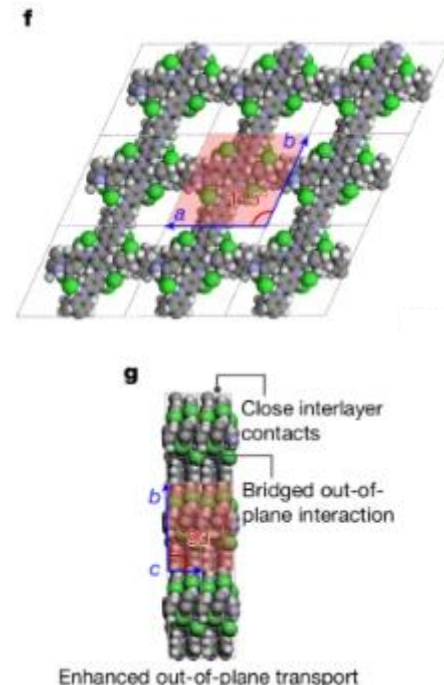
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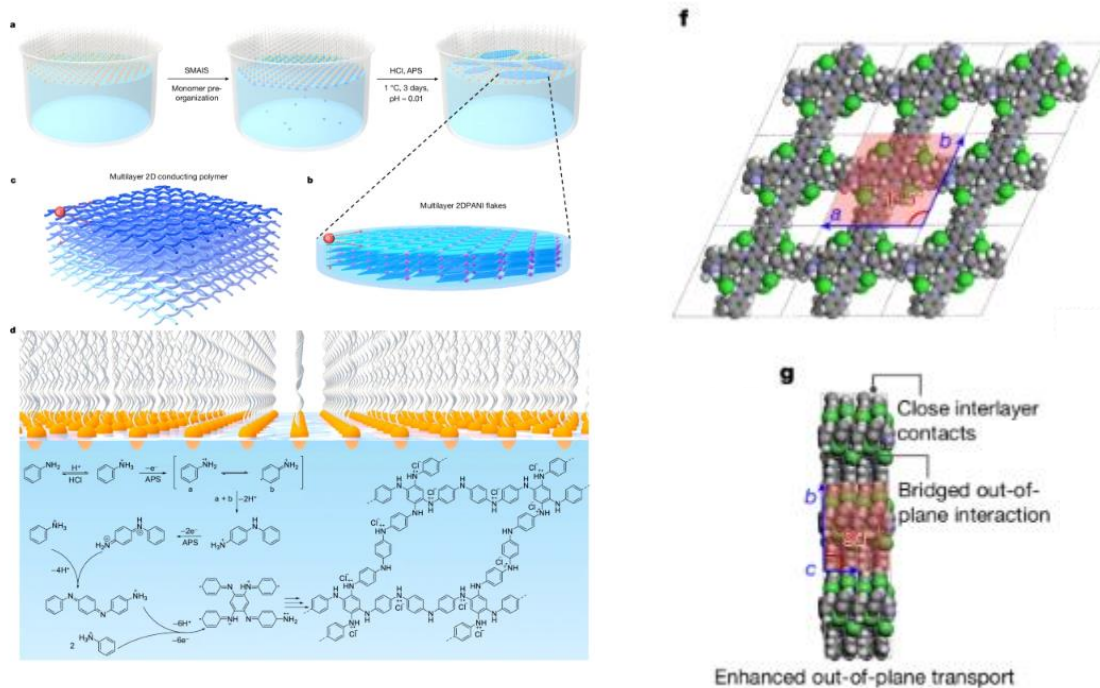


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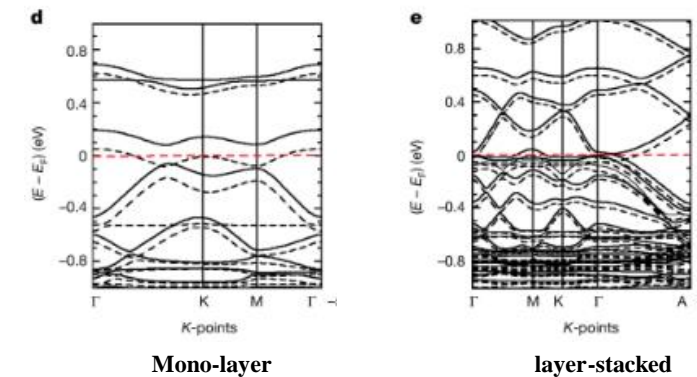
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As a result of structure

Metallic out-of-plane charge transport / 3D conduction



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Composites/Compounds – Stronger together

Definition composite material

- combinations of two or more distinct materials components, resulting in enhanced properties that individual materials do not possess

Principle of combined action!

Types of Composites

Laminar composite



Fiber-reinforced composite



Particulate composite



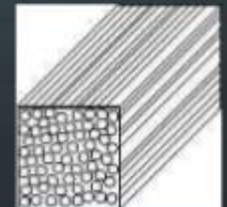
A composite material that consists of two or more layers of different materials that are bonded together



Composites with chopped or continuous fibers.



Composites with embedded particles



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Principle of combined action!

Main components of composites

- Matrix:** The continuous phase that binds the reinforcement together and distributes stress
- Dispersed phase:** is dispersed in matrix in various concentrations and geometries

Single components remain intact!

Types of Composites

Laminar composite



Fiber-reinforced composite



Particulate composite



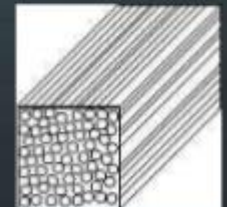
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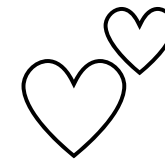
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Composites with embedded particles



Types of composites and examples



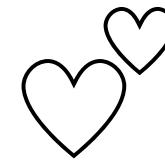
Particulate composite

- Grinding wheel (ceramic, polymer/glass)
- Cemented carbide (WC, cobalt)
- Concrete (aggregate, fluid cement)

Particulate composite



Types of composites and examples



Particulate composite

- Grinding wheel (ceramic, polymer/glass)
- Cemented carbide (WC, cobalt)
- Concrete (aggregate, fluid cement)

Particulate composite



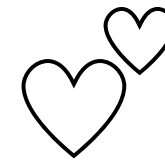
Fiber-reinforced composite

- Fibre cement (fibres, cement)
- Ceramic matrix composite (fibres, ceramic)

Fiber-reinforced composite



Types of composites and examples



Particulate composite

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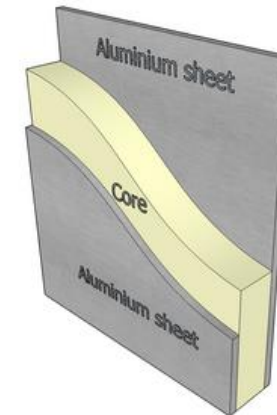
Particulate composite



Structural composite

- Plywood (plies of wood stuck together with glue)
- Sandwich panel (e.g., aluminum and polymer/porous mineral)
- Bimetall (e.g., brass and iron)

Laminar composite



Fiber-reinforced composite

- Fibre cement (fibres, cement)
- Ceramic matrix composite (fibres, ceramic)

Fiber-reinforced composite



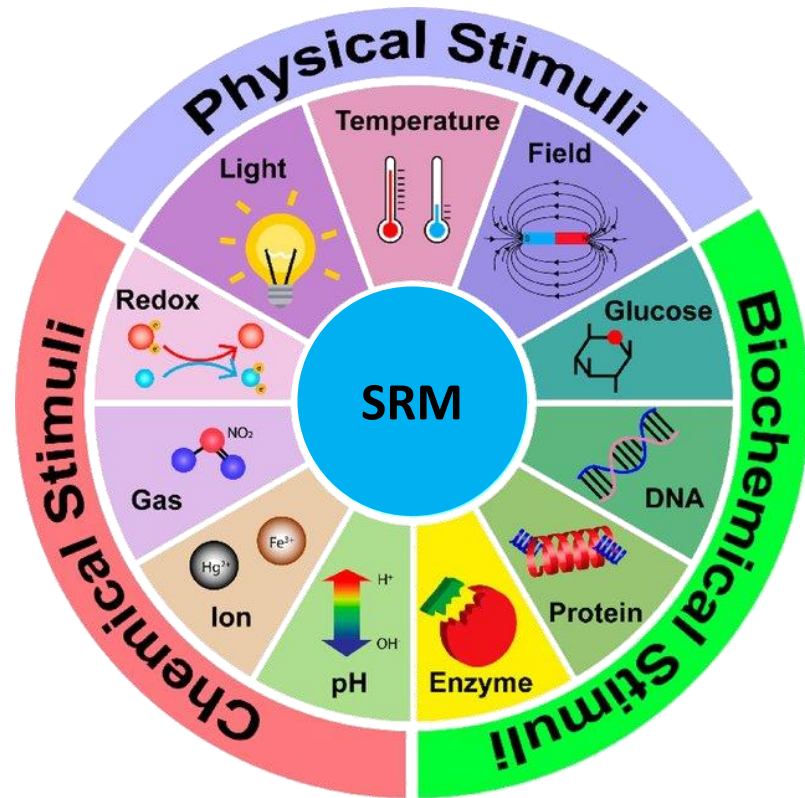
... and many more...

White Board

Taking materials a step further



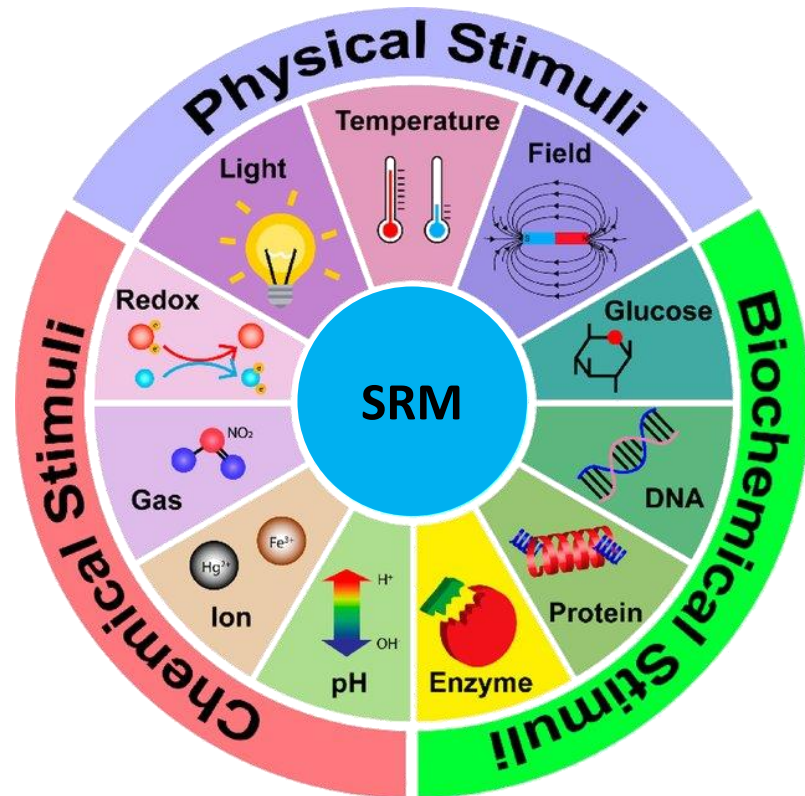
Stimuli-responsive materials (SRM) are materials that can react to the presence of or changes in external stimuli.



Taking materials a step further



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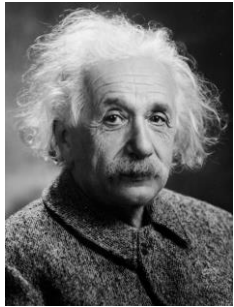


as a response to these stimuli, the material shows changes in its

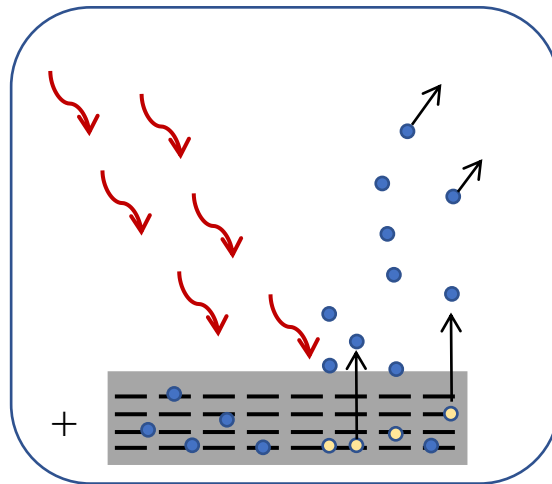
- shape
- molecular assembly
- physical properties
- chemical properties
- mechanical properties

Photoelectric & photovoltaic effect

“excitation of electrons to a higher-energy state, when a material is exposed to electromagnetic radiation”



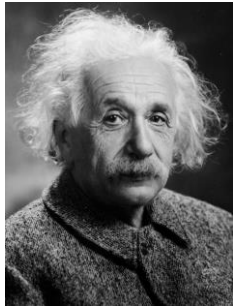
A. Einstein



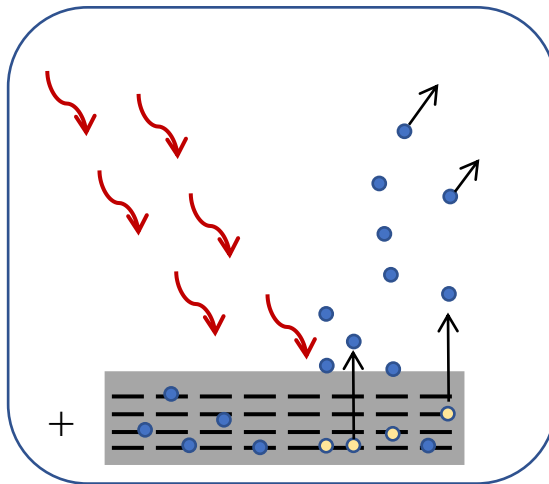
Electrons leave the
material.

Photoelectric & photovoltaic effect

“excitation of electrons to a higher-energy state, when a material is exposed to electromagnetic radiation”



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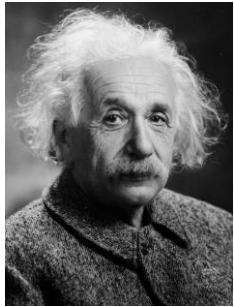
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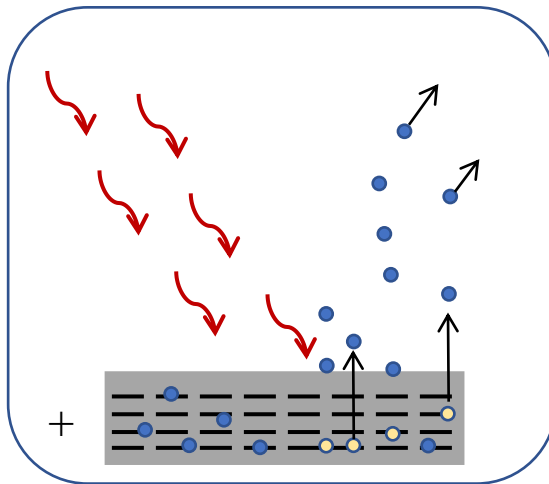
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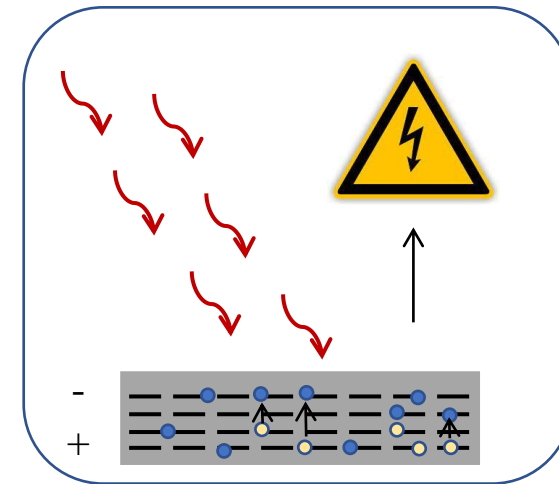
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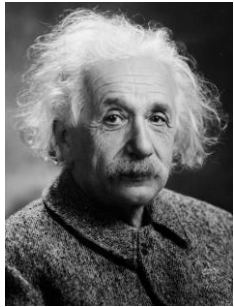
Electrons stay within the material.



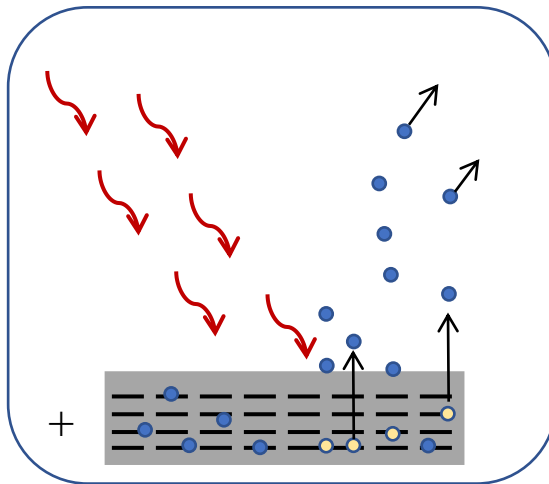
E. Becquerel

Photoelectric & photovoltaic effect

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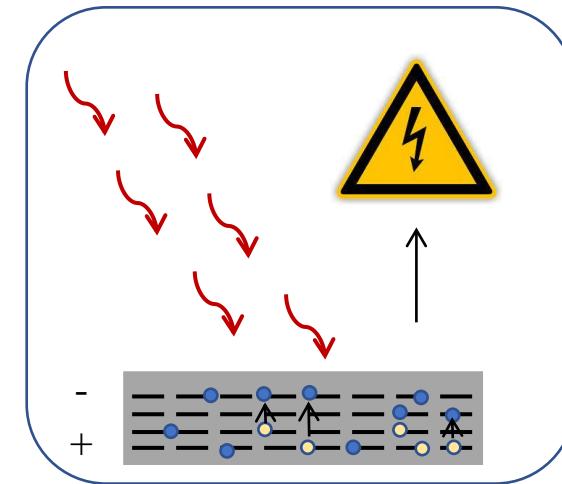
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Electrons leave the material.



XPS.



Electrons stay within the material.

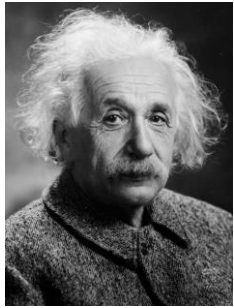


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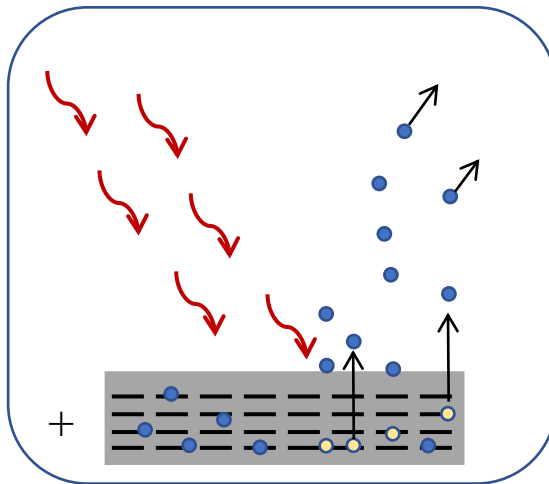
Photovoltaic effect is also called the inner photoelectric effect.

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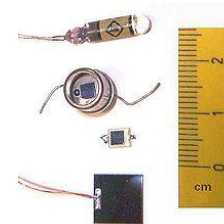
Electrons leave the material.



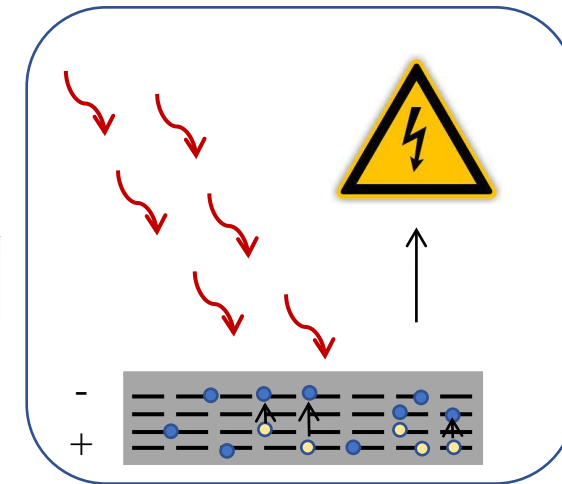
XPS.



Solar cell.



Photodiode.



Electrons stay within the material.



E. Becquerel

Photovoltaic effect is also called the inner photoelectric effect.

Questions?

