

Week 2-4

Light emitters 4

Stacked WOLEDs

Outcoupling

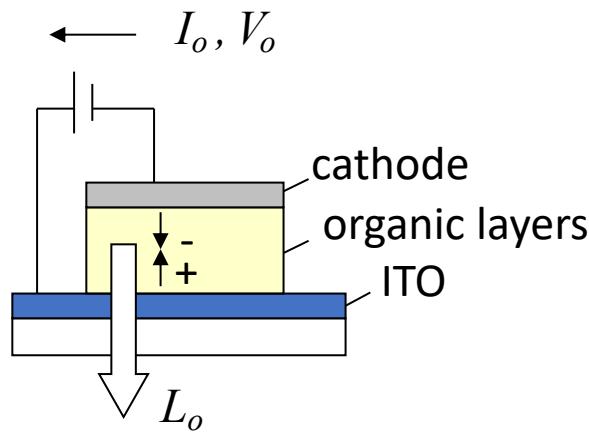
Chapter 6.5.4-6.6

Organic Electronics
Stephen R. Forrest

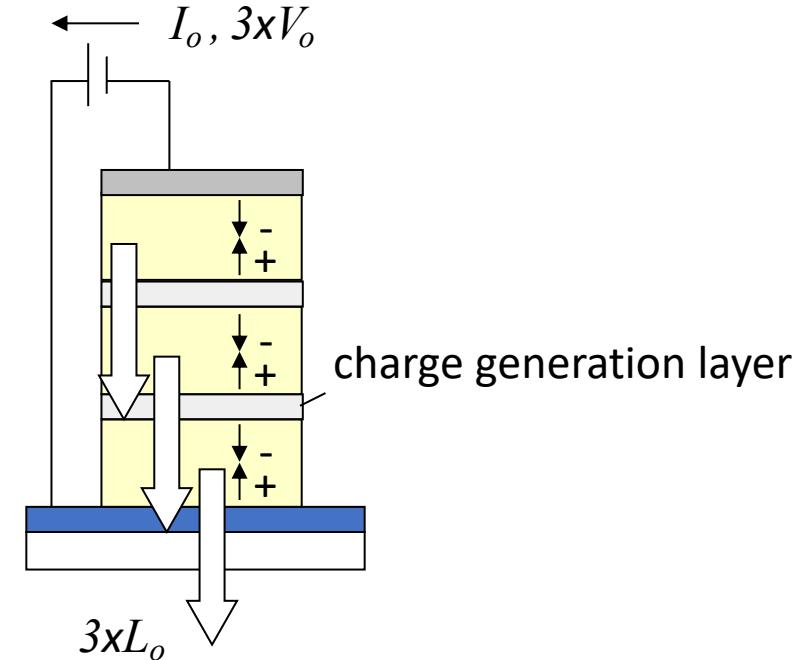
White Phosphorescent SOLEDs

Requires less current for same luminance as a single unit device

- Longer lifetime at same luminance
- Less current for a given luminance = reduced resistive power losses and heating



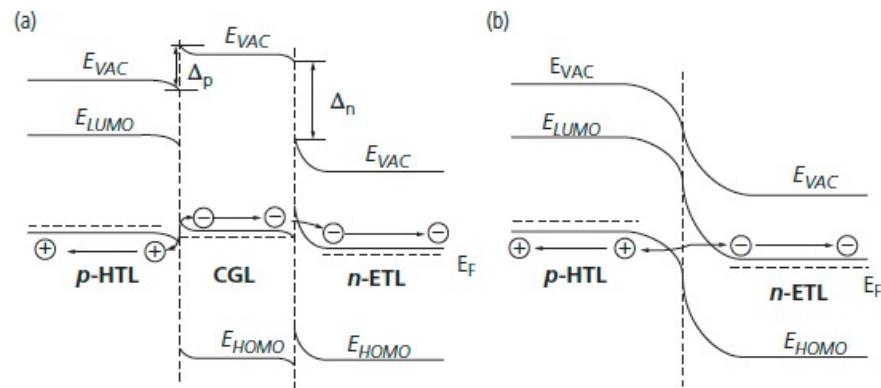
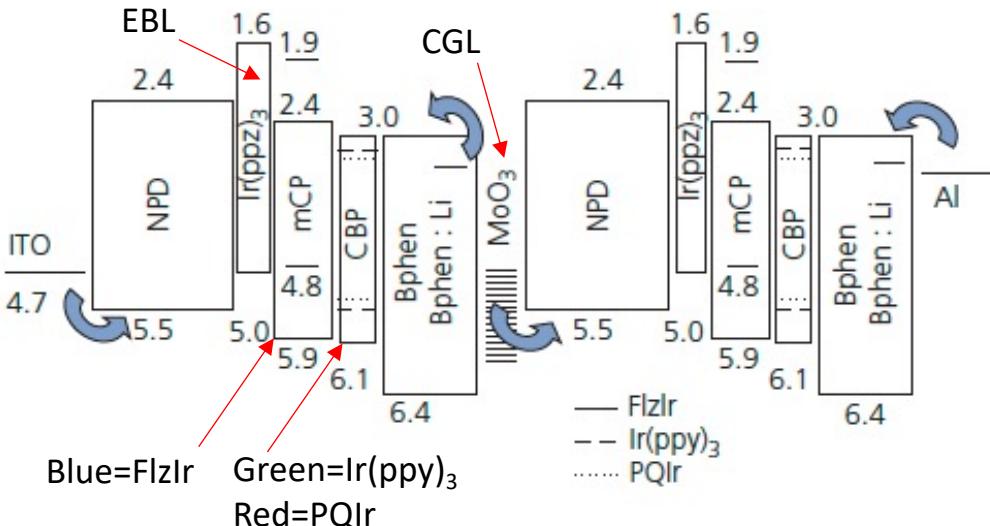
Conventional OLED



Stacked OLED (SOLED)

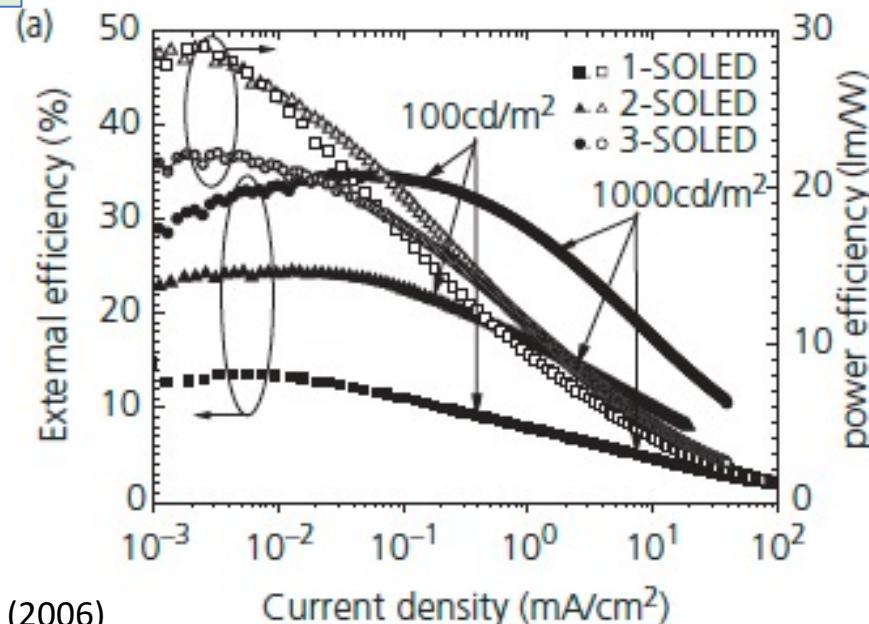
Lifetime and efficiency of OLEDs can be increased by vertically stacking multiple OLED units in series

SOLED Operation Principles

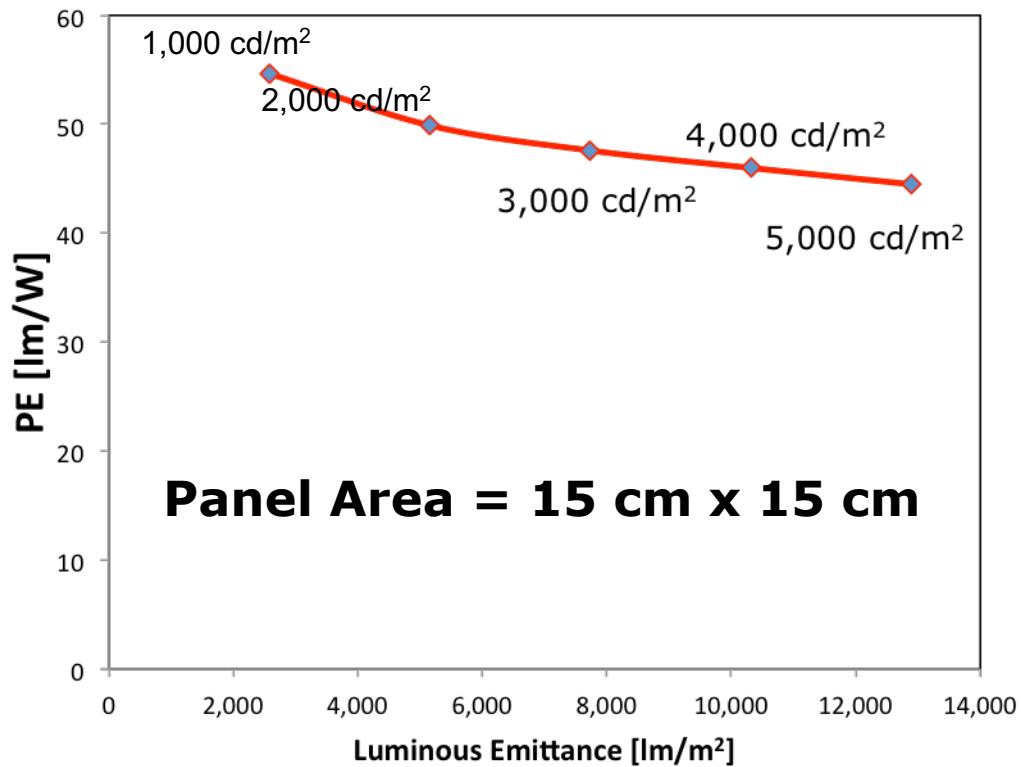


Two types of CGLs: Recombination vs. tunnel junctions

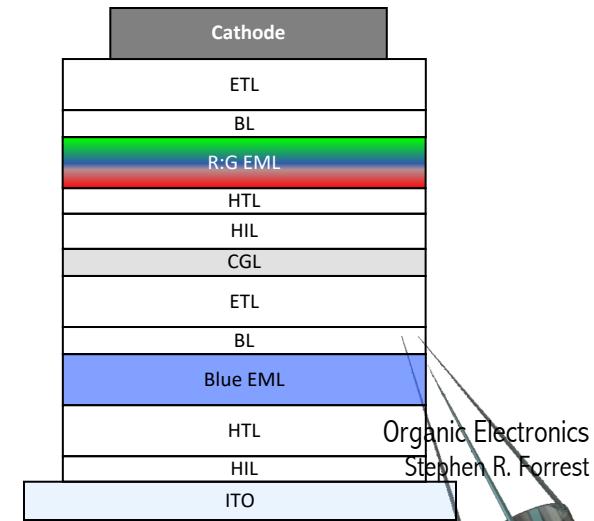
Archetype stacked WOLED



White SOLED Panel: Efficacy vs. Luminous Emittance



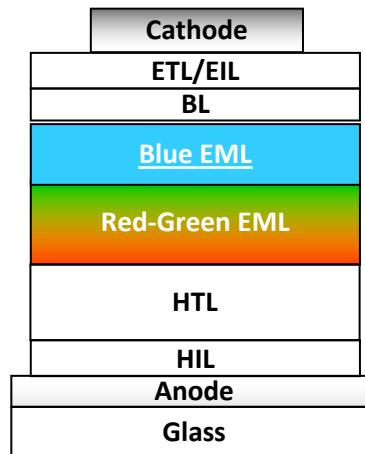
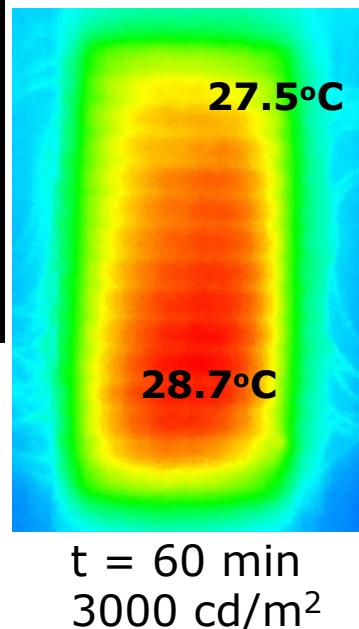
- Efficacy approaching 50 lm/W at 10,000 lm/m²
- CRI = 83
- LT70 = 4,000 hrs



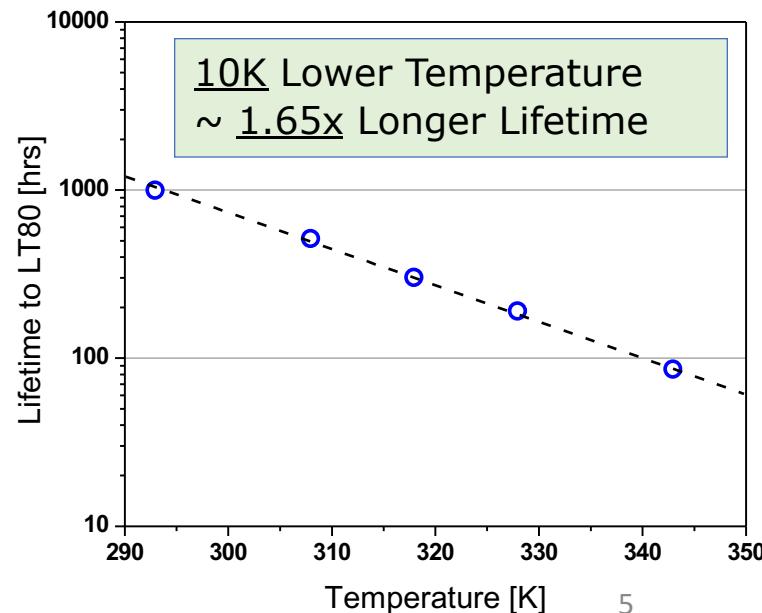
White PHOLED Panel

Panel 15 cm x 15 cm 15 mm thick	At 1,000 cd/m ²	At 3,000 cd/m ²
Efficacy [lm/W]	58	49
CRI	82	83
Luminous Emittance [lm/m ²]	2,580	7,740
Voltage [V]	3.8	4.3
1931 CIE	(0.466, 0.413)	(0.471, 0.413)
Duv	0.001	0.000
CCT [K]	2,640	2,580
Efficacy Enhancement	1.75x	1.75x
Temperature Rise [°C]	0.7	7.2
LT70 [hrs]	30,000	4,000

Lower current at constant L
 ⇒ lower temperature
 ⇒ longer lifetime

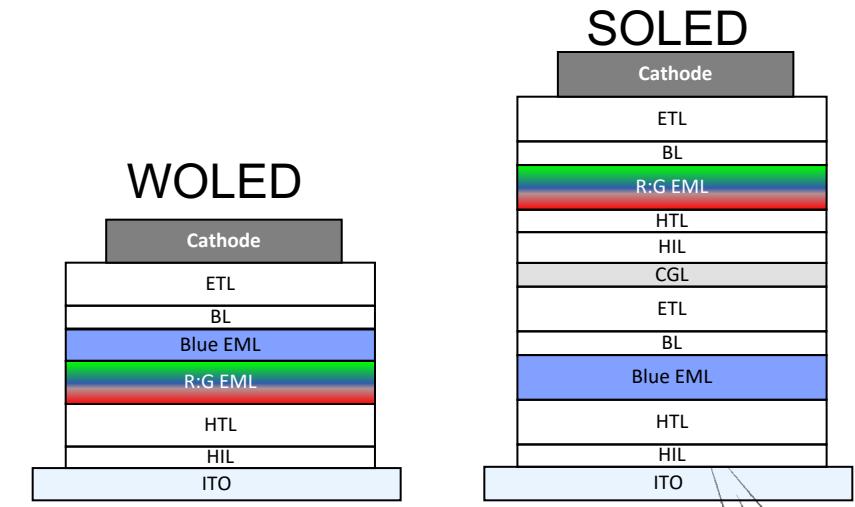


$\text{LT70} \sim 30\text{K hrs at } 1000 \text{ cd/m}^2$
 Warm White with CCT 2640K



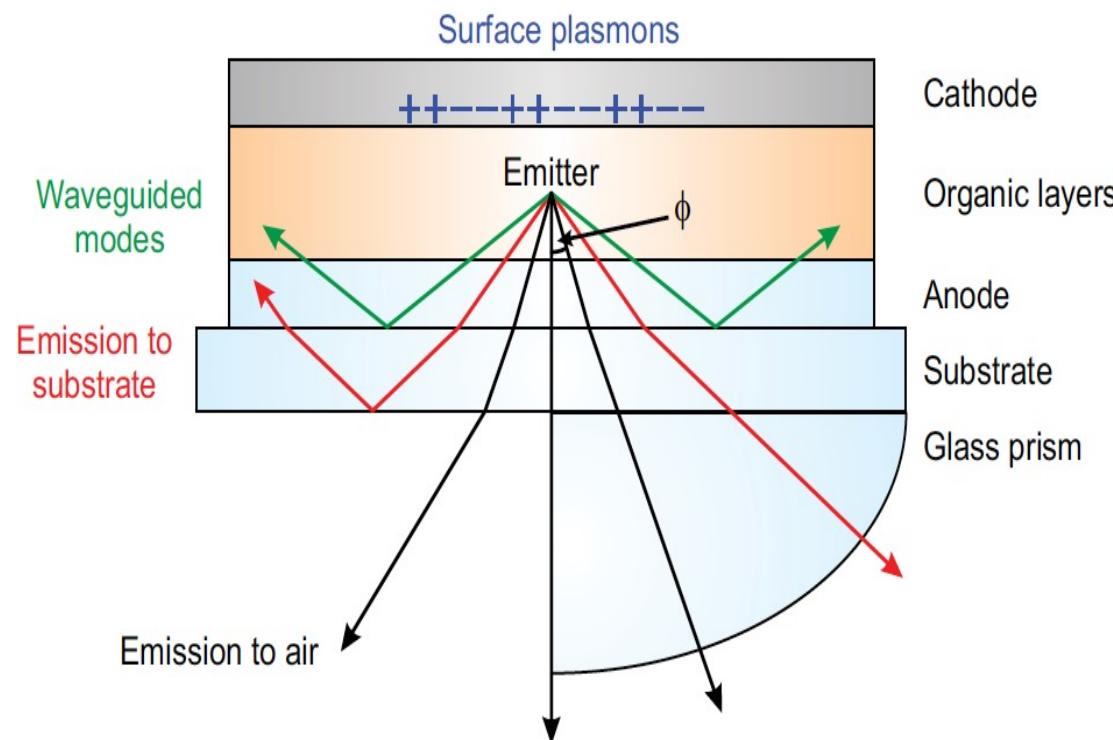
WOLED vs. SOLED Panel Comparison

Panel 15 cm x 15 cm 82% fill factor	Single Unit WOLED*	2 Unit WSOLED
Luminance [cd/m ²]	3,000	3,000
Efficacy [lm/W]	49	48
CRI	83	86
Luminous Emittance [lm/m ²]	7,740	7,740
Voltage [V]	4.3	7.4
1931 CIE	(0.471, 0.413)	(0.454, 0.426)
Duv	0.000	0.006
CCT [K]	2,580	2,908
Temperature [°C]	27.2	26.2
LT ₇₀ [hrs]	4,000	13,000



OLEDs: Not All Light Goes to the Viewer

- Optical paths outcoupled with hemispherical lens



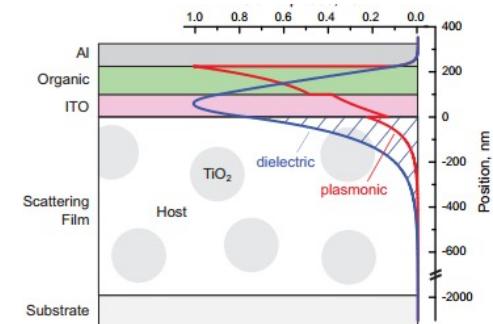
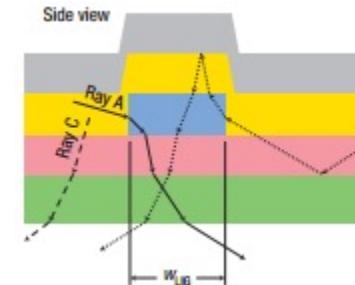
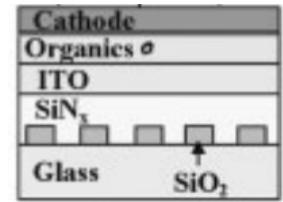
Getting all the photons out

- **Good solutions**

- Inexpensive
- Viewing angle independent
- Independent of OLED structure

- **Among those things that have been tried**

- Optical gratings or photonic crystals¹
- Corrugations or grids embedded in OLED²
- Nano-scale scattering centers³
- Dipole orientation management

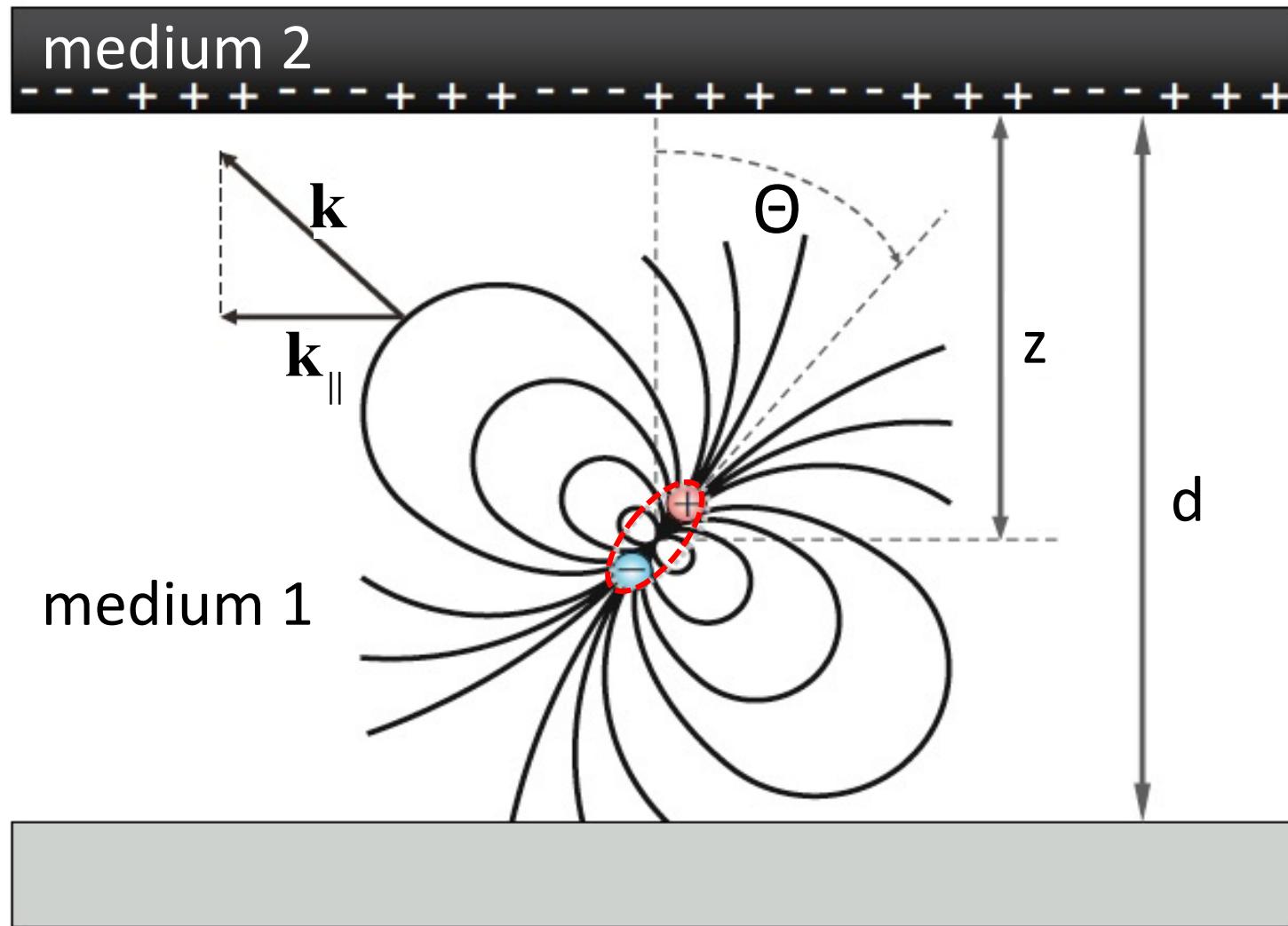


¹Y .R. Do, et al, *Adv. Mater.* **15**, 1214 (2003).

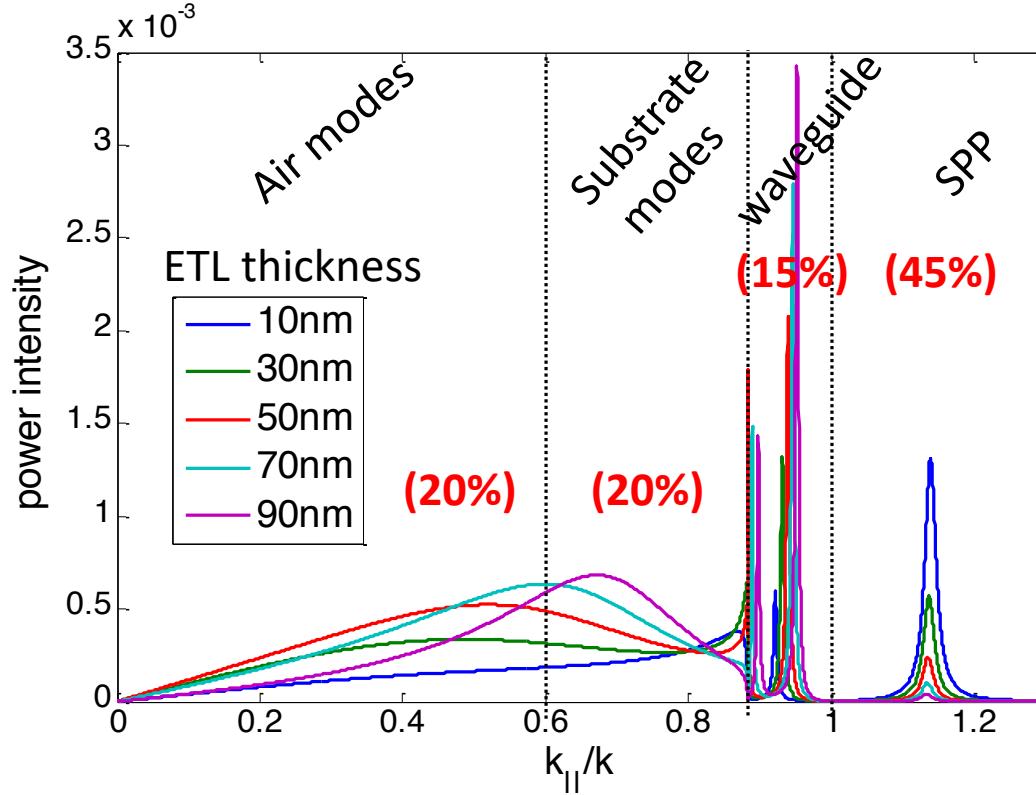
²Y. Sun and S.R. Forrest, *Nat Phot.* **2**, 483 (2008).

³Chang, H.-W. et al. *J. Appl. Phys.* **113**, - (2013).

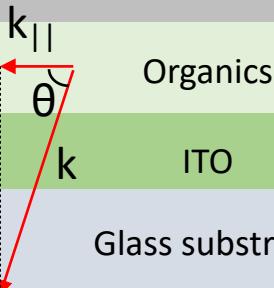
Molecules are radiating dipoles in inhomogeneous media



Where do all the photons go?



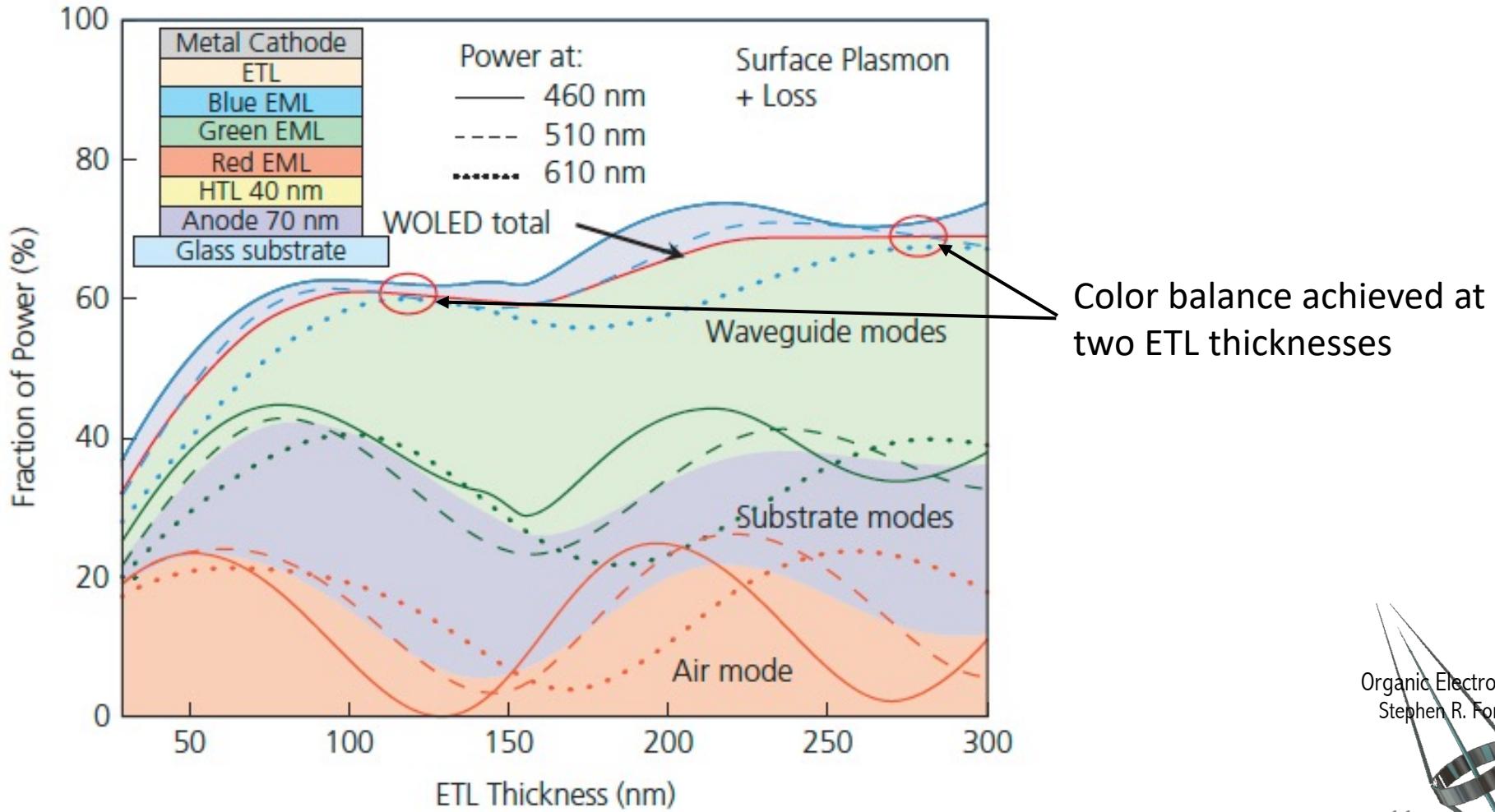
Cathode metal (mirror)



- **Air modes:** EQE first increases, then decreases with ETL thickness
- **Waveguide modes:** Only one waveguide mode TE_0 due to thin ETL ($< 30\text{nm}$). TM_0 appears when $> 50\text{nm}$.
- **Surface plasmon polariton modes:** Reduced with ETL thickness
- Both waveguide and SPP modes are quantized
- Total energy is the integral of Power Intensity $\times \cos(\theta)$, so SPP not as small as it looks

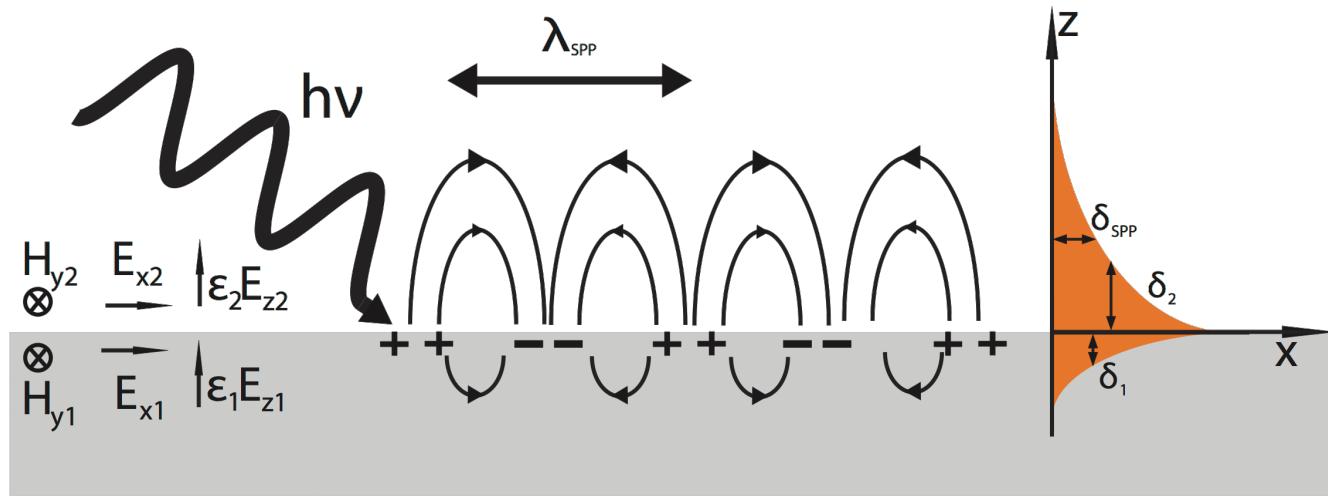
WOLED Outcoupling Can Yield True Color

ETL Thickness Controls Coupling to lossy surface plasmons



Surface Plasmon Polariton (SPP) Modes: Major Loss Channel

$\eta_{\text{ext}} > 80\%$ (incl. substrate + waveguide modes)

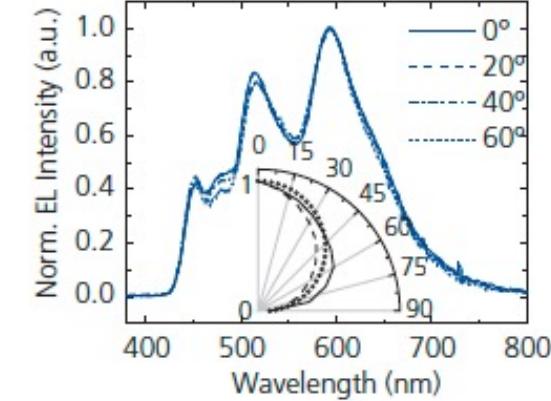
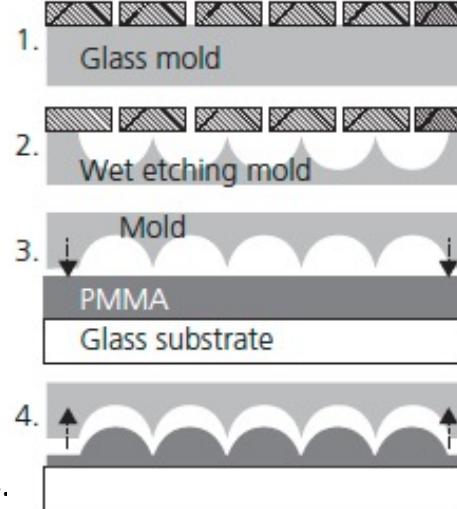
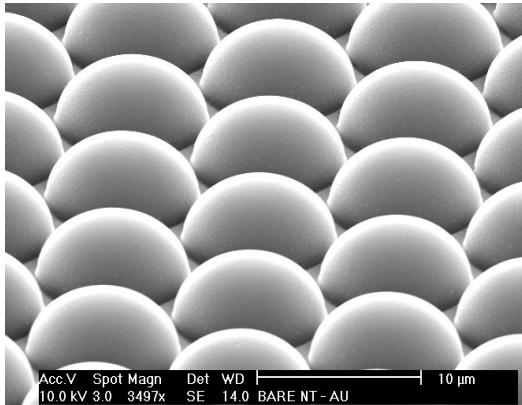


- Waveguided light excites lossy SPPs in metal cathode
- Major loss channel partially eliminated by rapid outcoupling of waveguide modes
- Most difficult to eliminate cost-effectively without impacting device structure

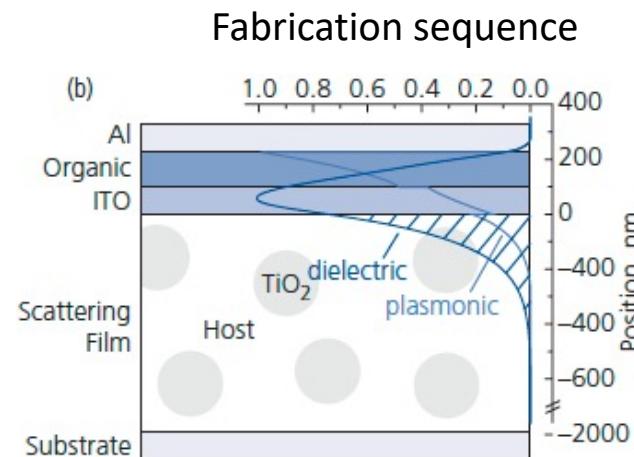
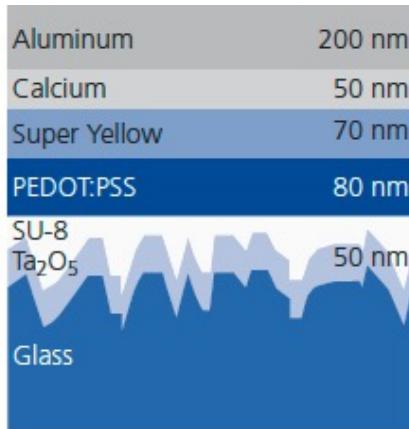
Substrate Mode Outcoupling: $\sim 2X$ Improvement

$\eta_{ext} \sim 40\%$

Microlens arrays: Polymer hemispheres much smaller than pixel



Möller, S. & Forrest, S. R. 2001. *J. Appl. Phys.*, 91, 3324.



Spectrum angle independent

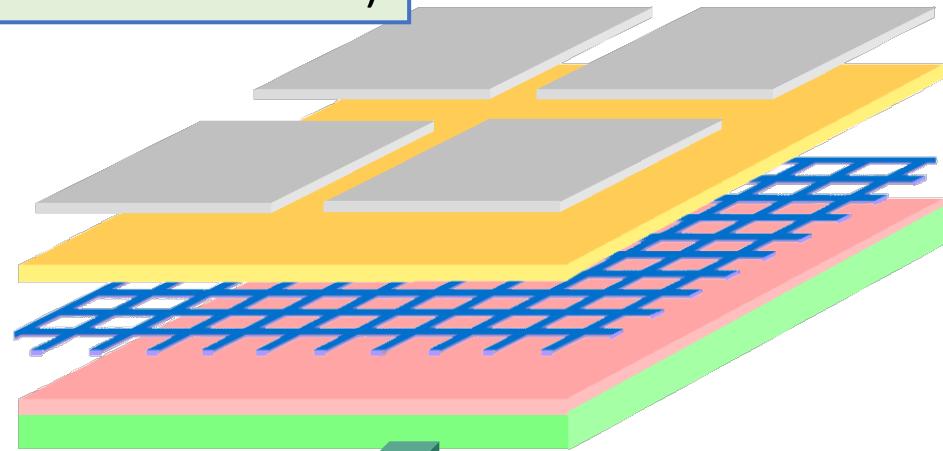
⇒ Scattering and surface roughness also can reduce substrate modes



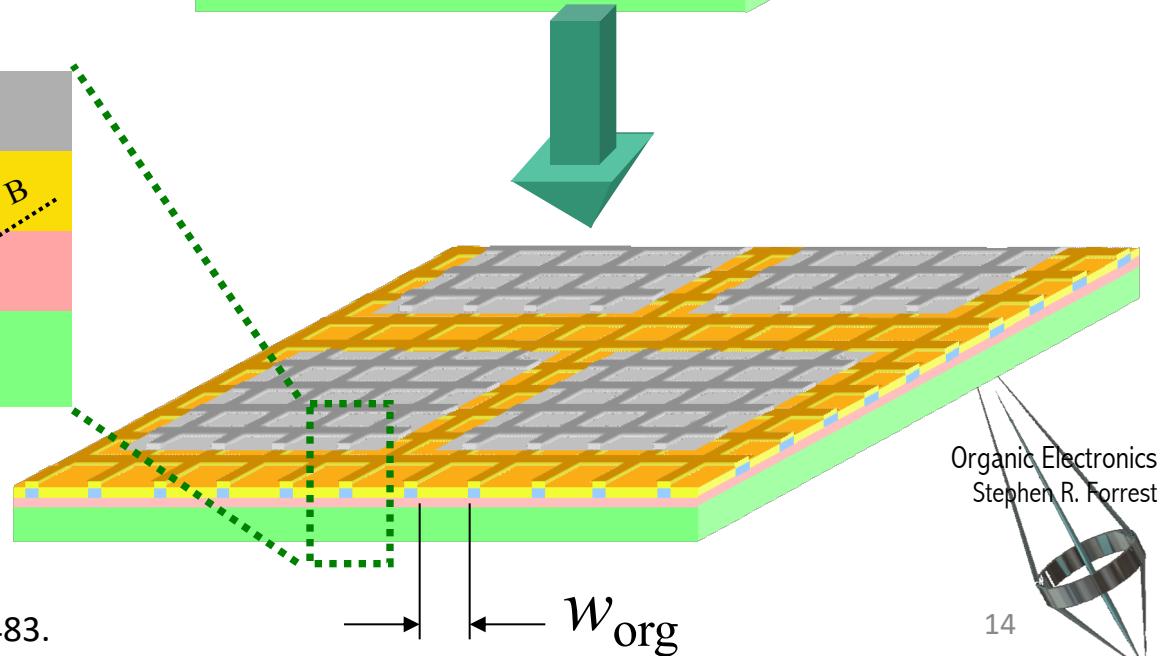
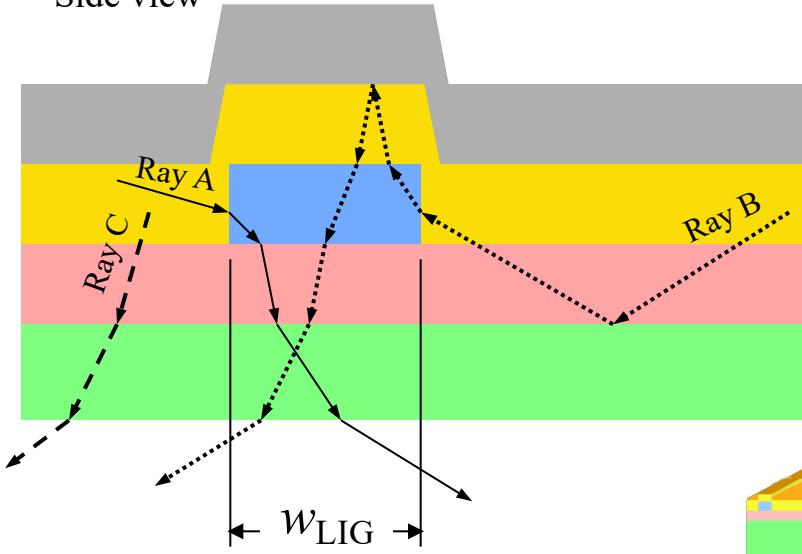
Waveguide Mode Outcoupling: Embedded Low Index Grid

- Metal electrode pixel
- Organics
- Low-index grid
- ITO
- Glass substrate

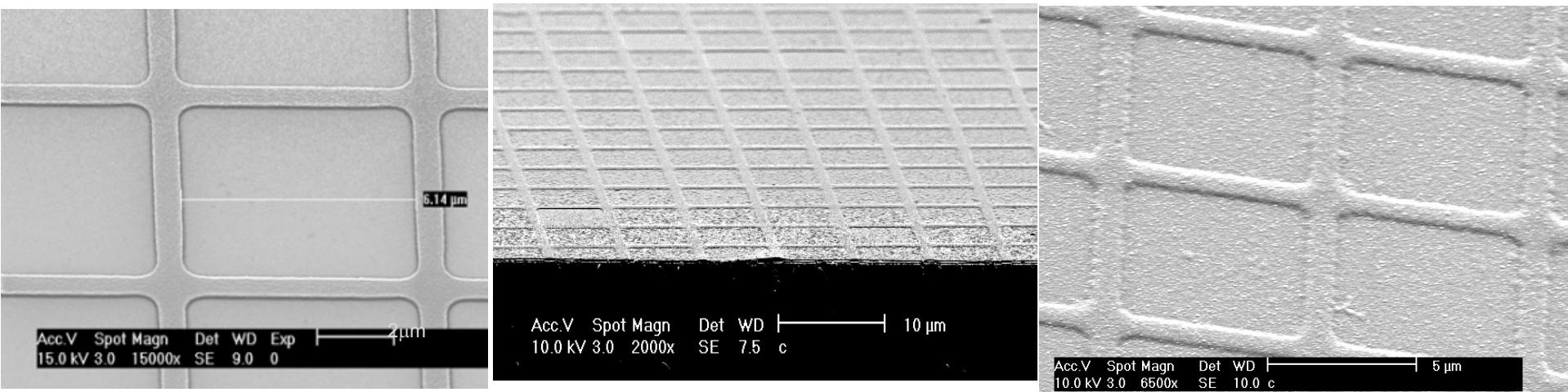
$\eta_{\text{ext}} \sim 60\% \text{ (incl. substrate modes)}$



Side view

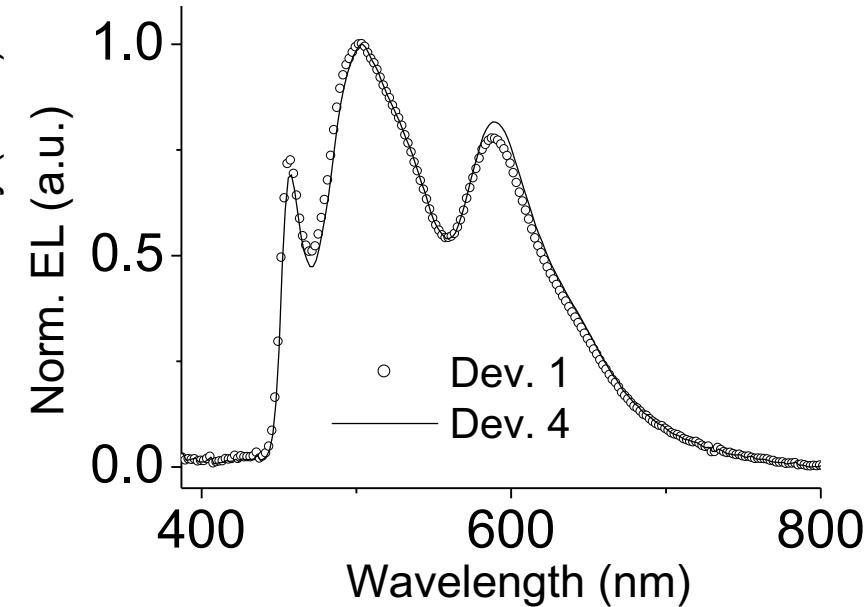
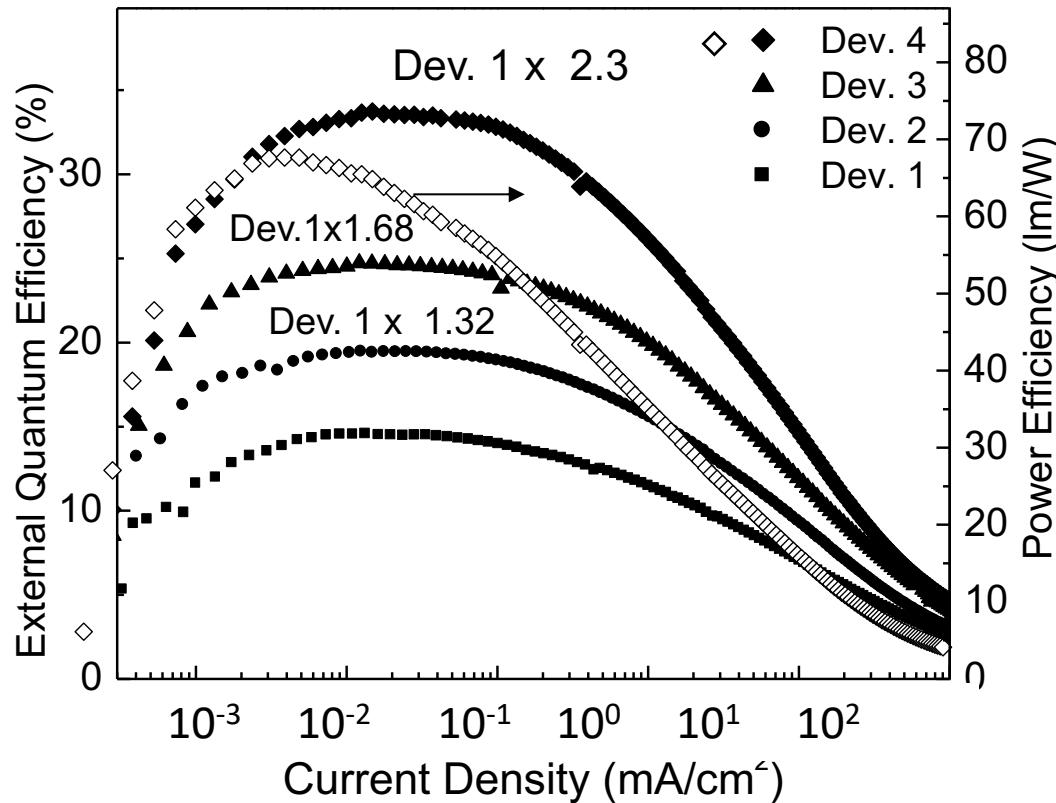


Low Index Grid Images



- OLED >> Grid size >> Wavelength
- Embedded into OLED structure
- May partially decouple waveguide mode from SPPs

Hybrid WOLED Performance Using Embedded Grids + Microlens Arrays



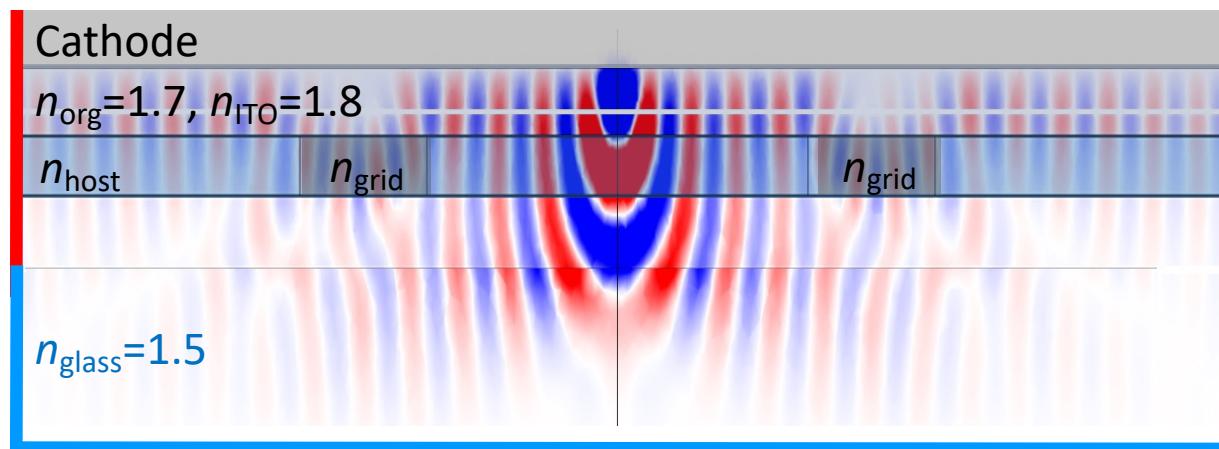
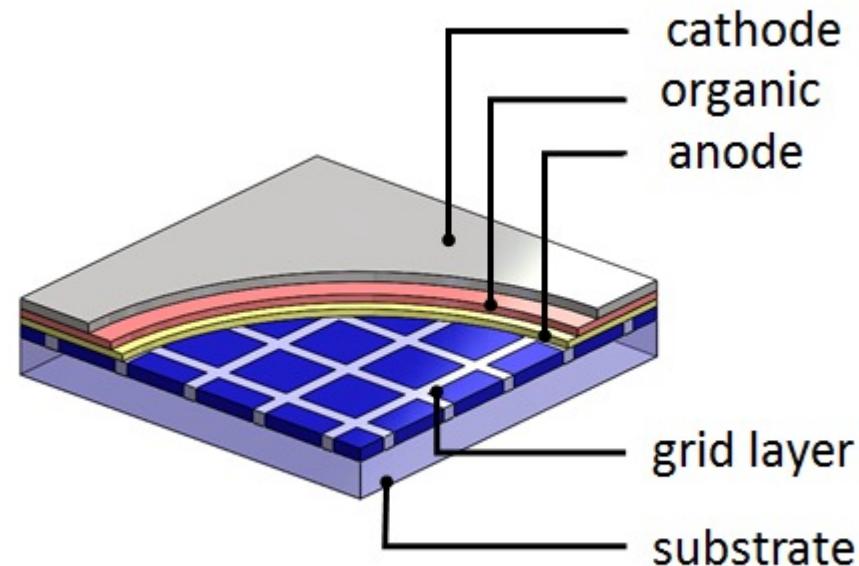
Device 1: Conventional
Device 2: LIG only
Device 3: Microlenses only
Device 4: LIG + Microlenses

Method is Wavelength
Independent

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A better approach: Sub-Anode Grid

- ❑ A multi-wavelength scale dielectric grid between glass and transparent anode (sub-anode grid)
- ❑ The grid is removed from the OLED active region
- ❑ Waveguided light is scattered into substrate and air modes

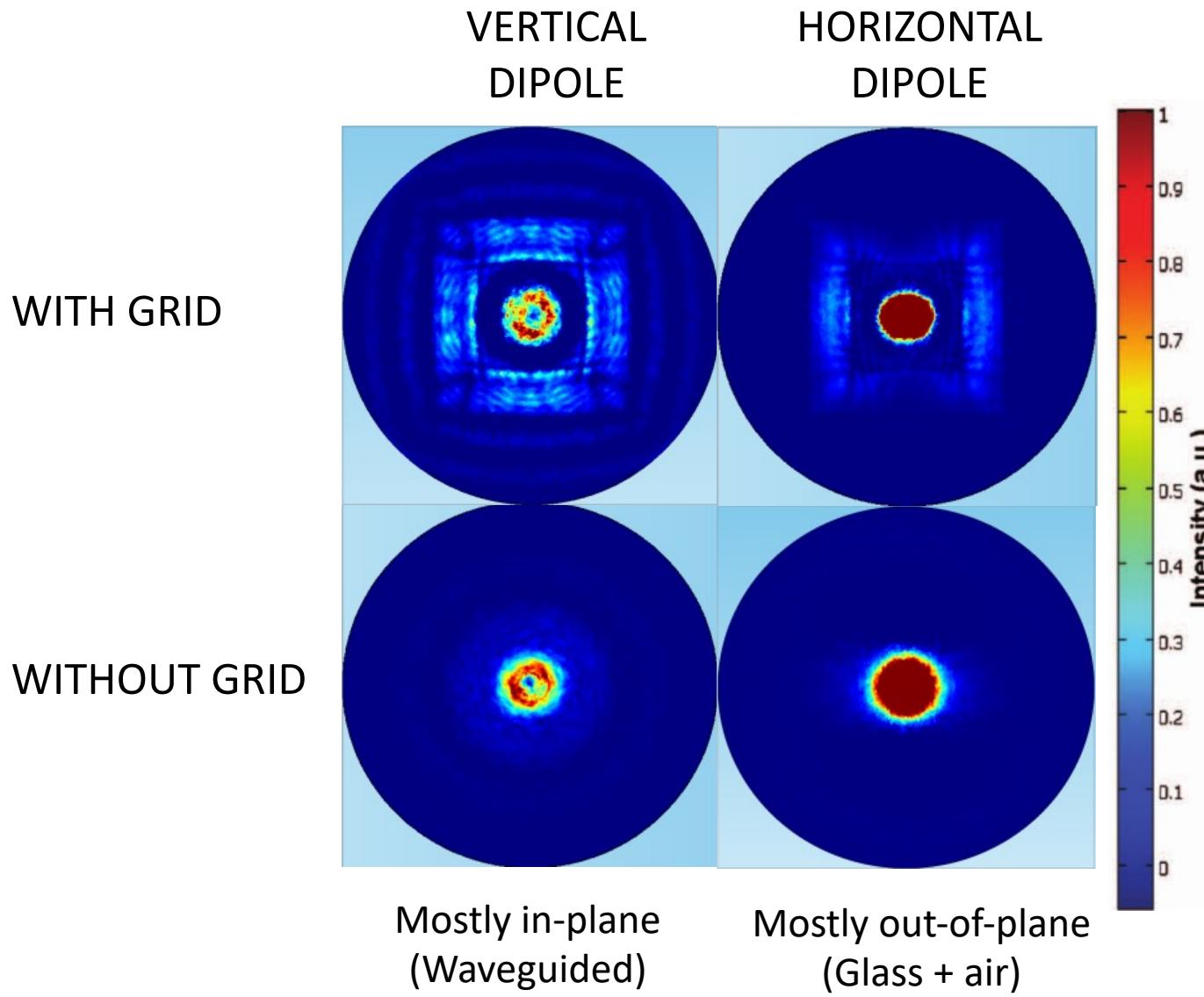


waveguided
power +
dissipation

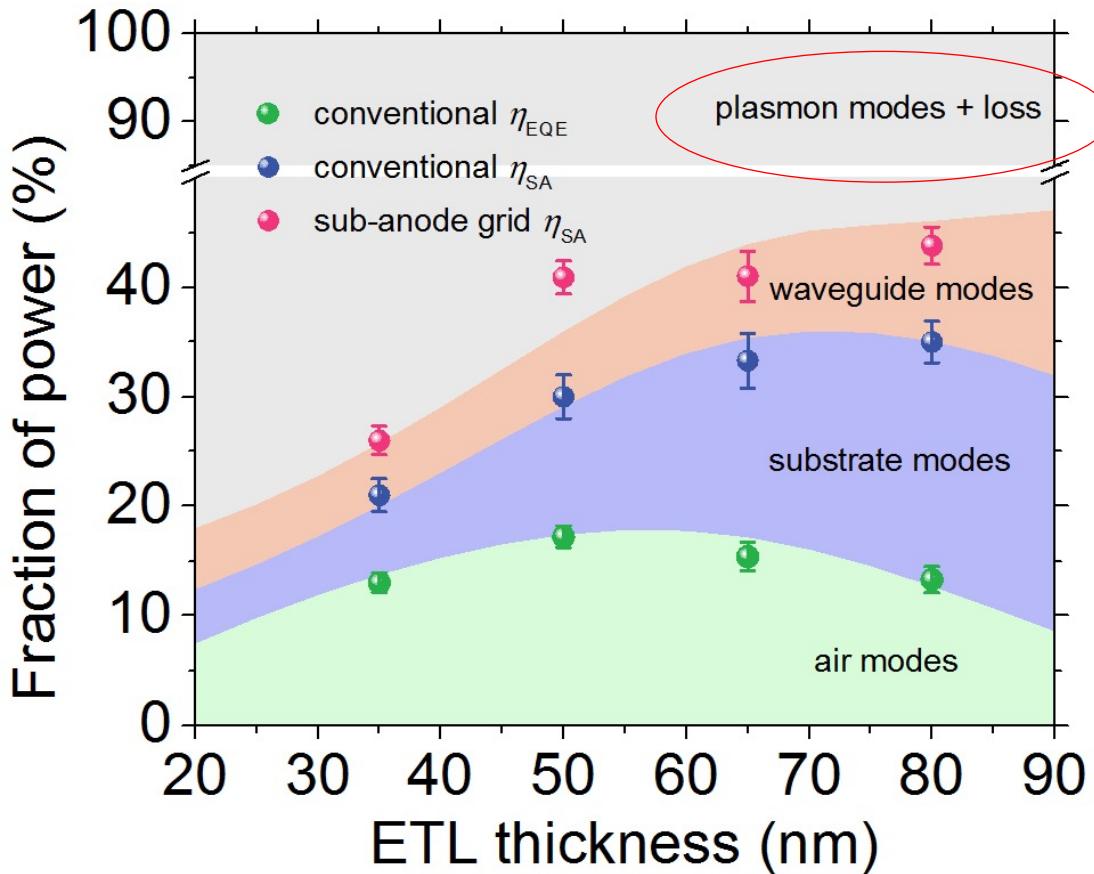
Collect substrate
mode power

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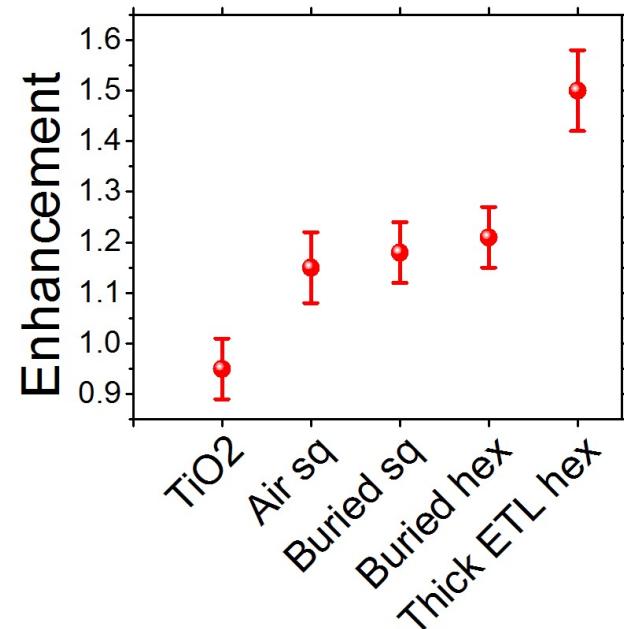
Emission field calculations



Optical Power Distribution



2nm MoO₃/40nm CBP/15nm CBP:Ir(ppy)₃/xnm
TPBi/1nm LiF/Al

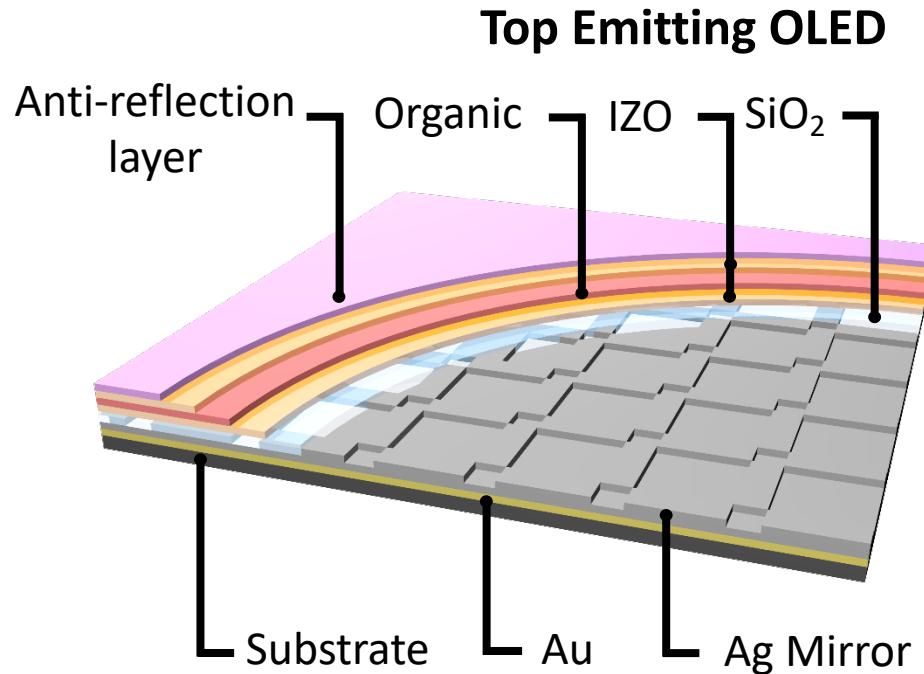


Thick-ETL organic structure:

340nm grid/70nm ITO/2nm MoO₃/40nm
TcTa/15nm CBP: Ir(ppy)₃/10nm TPBi/230nm
Bphen:Li/Al

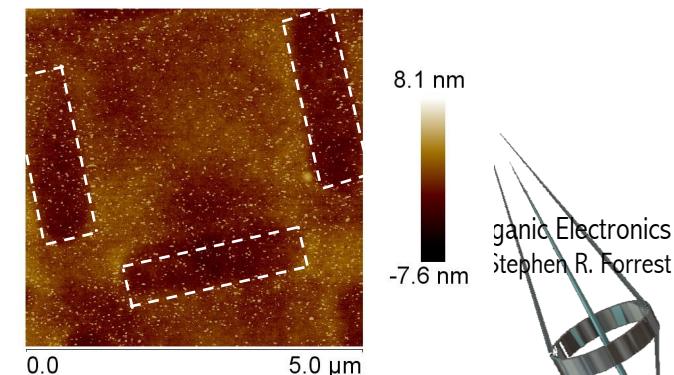
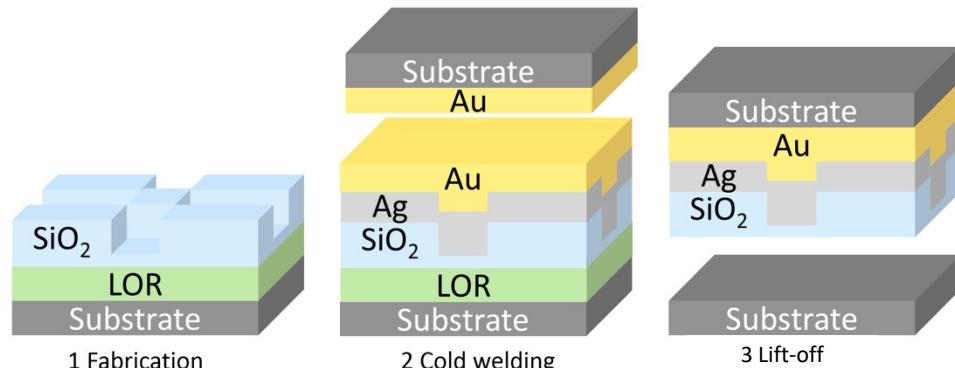
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Eliminating SPPs Using Sub-Anode Grid + Mirror



Mirror remote from EML
eliminates SPP excitation

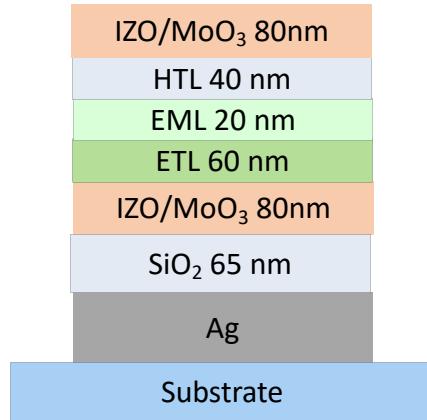
Substrate Fabrication



Sub-electrode grid modeling

Variable Waveguide Widths Above Mirror Prevent Mode Propagation via Scattering

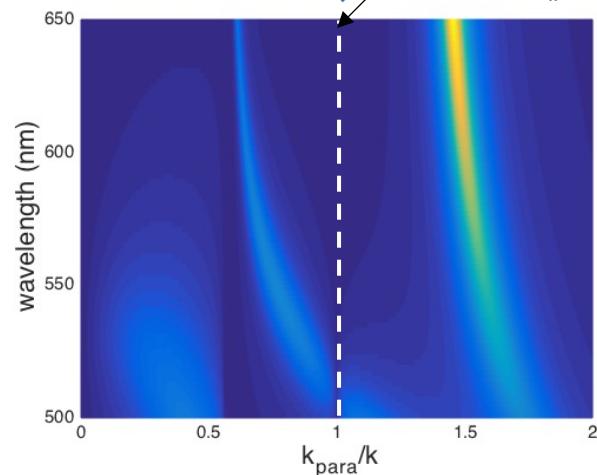
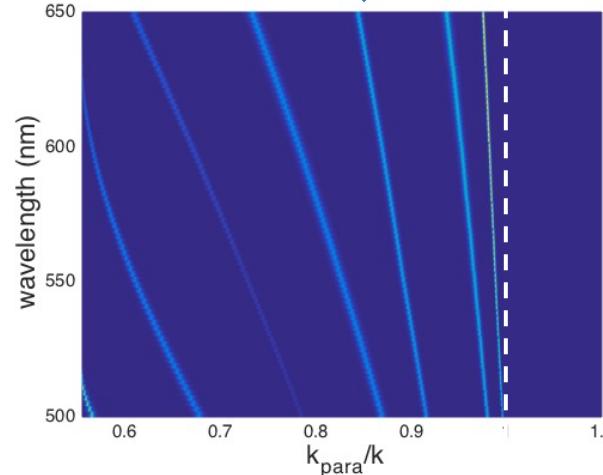
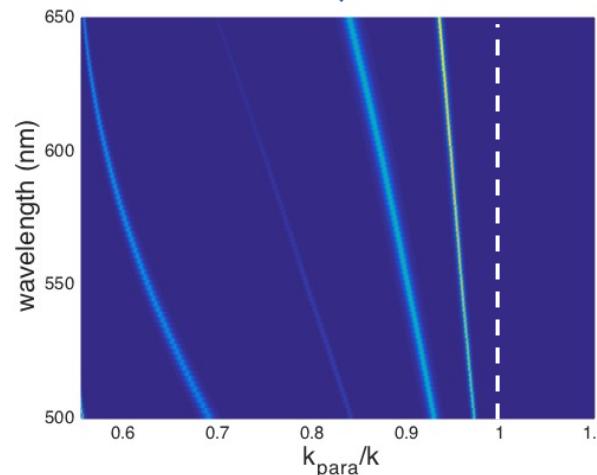
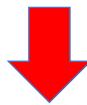
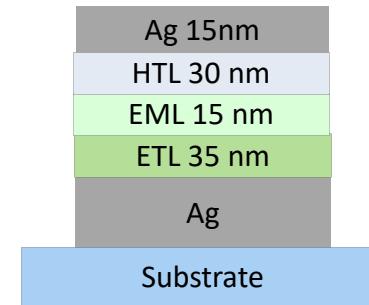
raised mirror section



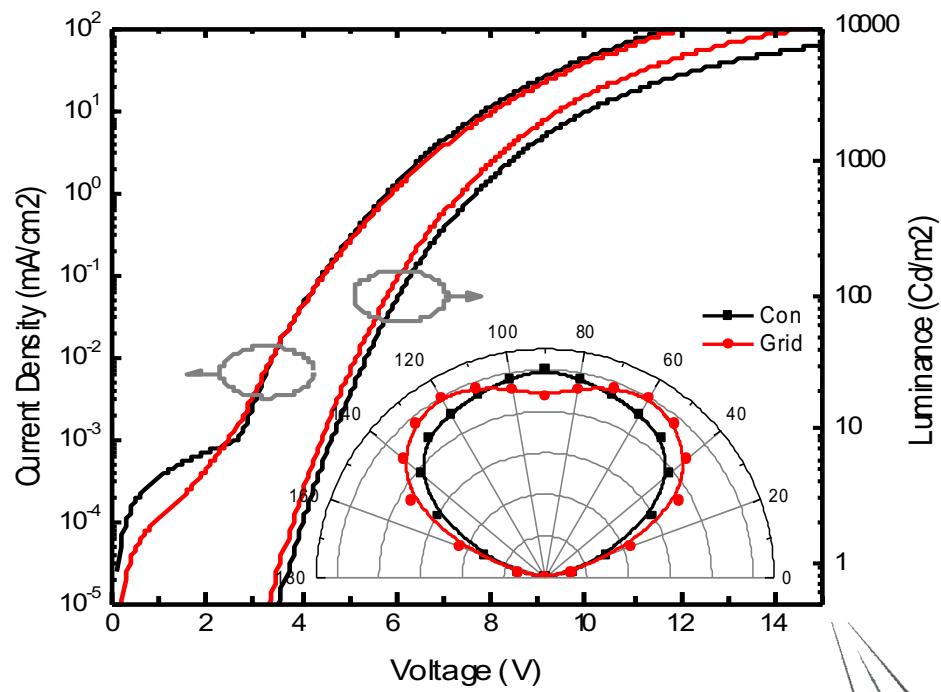
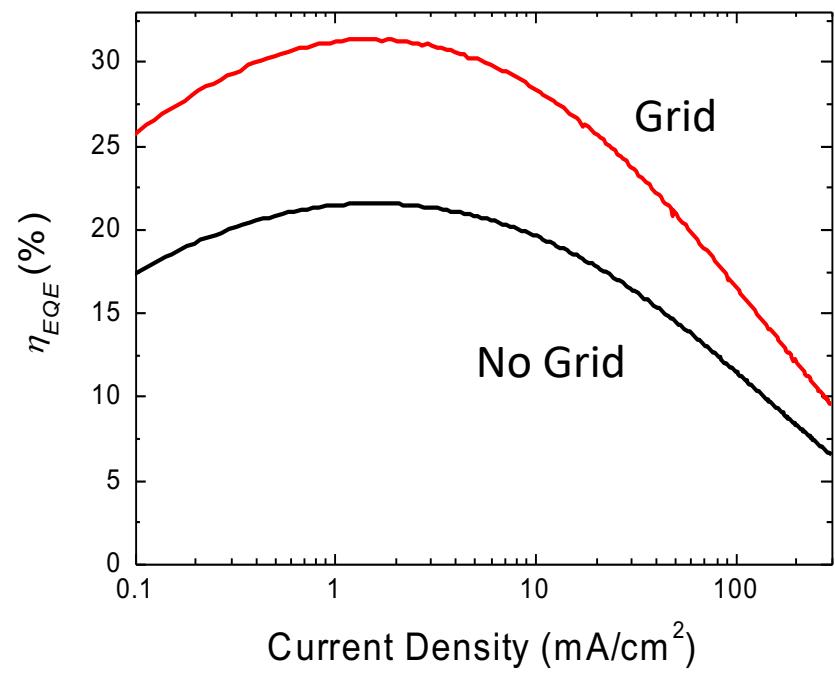
depressed mirror section



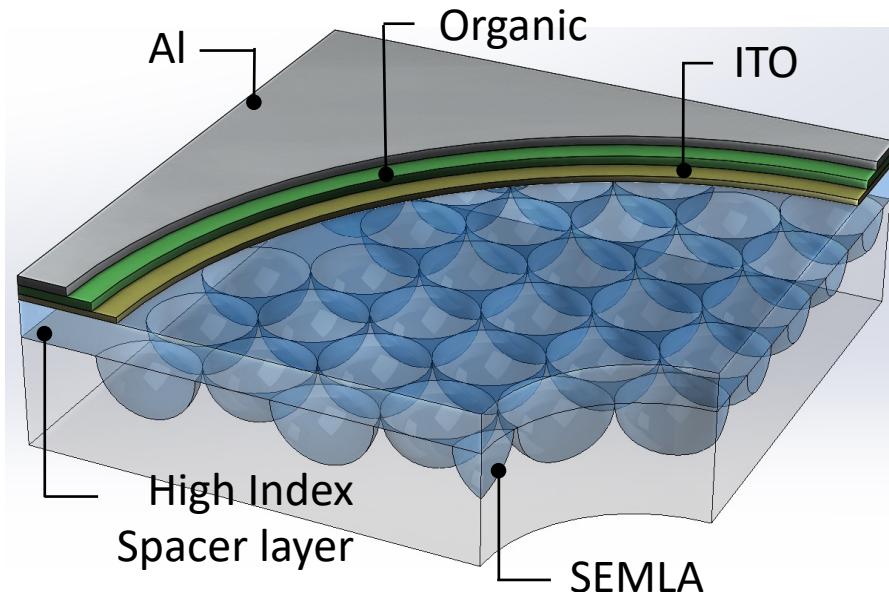
no waveguide



Performance with and without grid+mirror

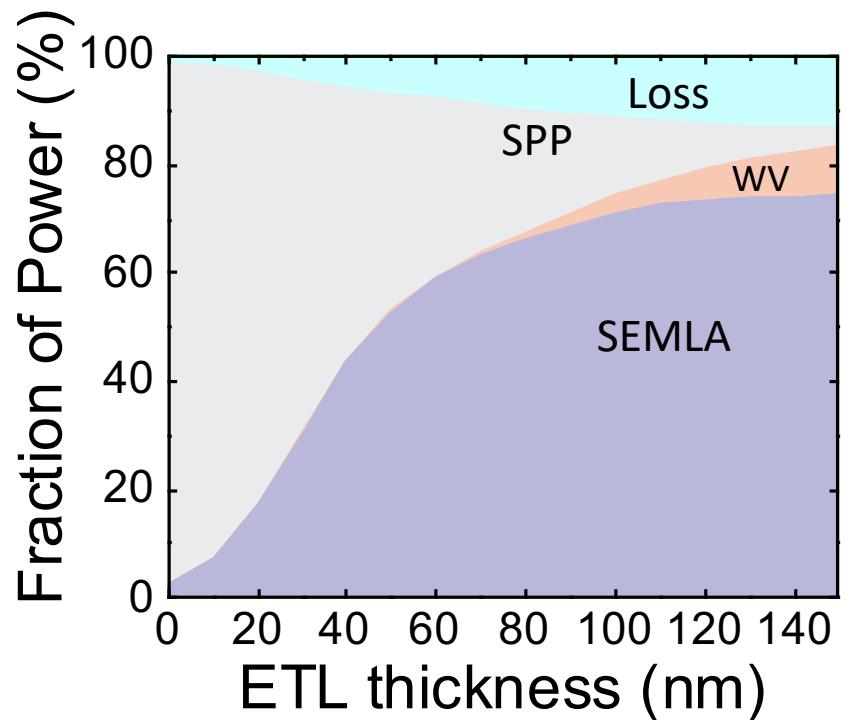
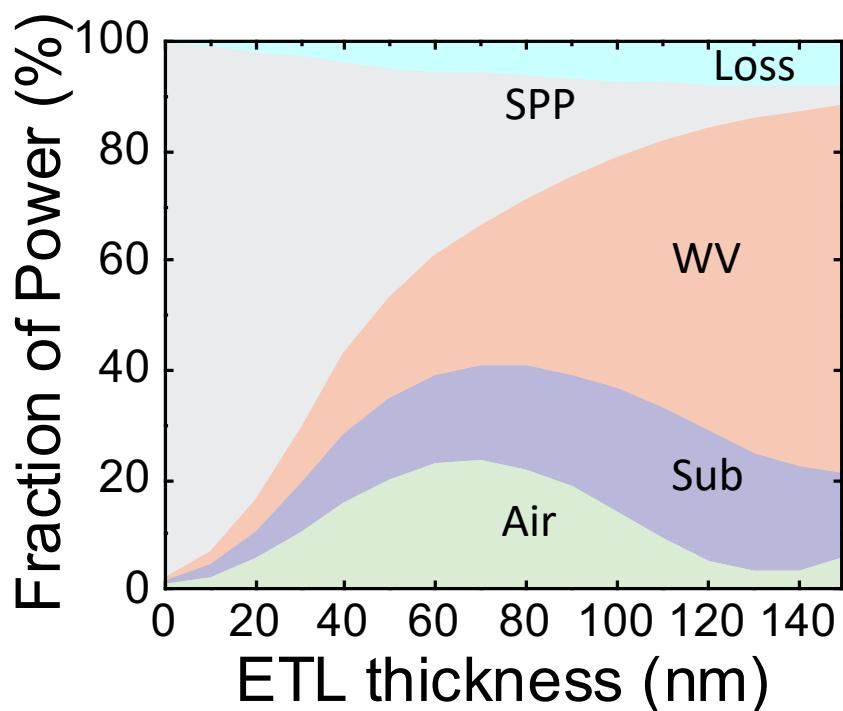


Getting All the Light Out: Sub-Electrode Microlens Array (SEMLA)



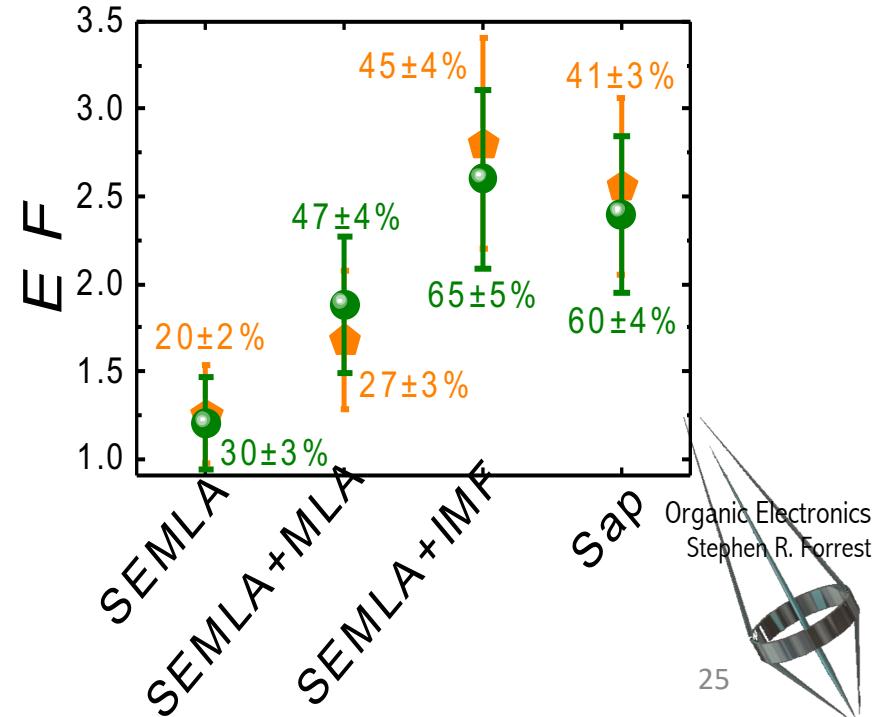
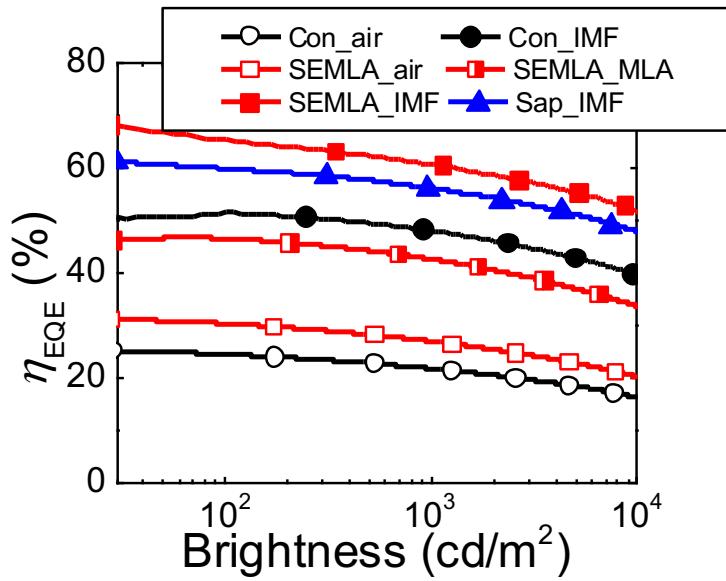
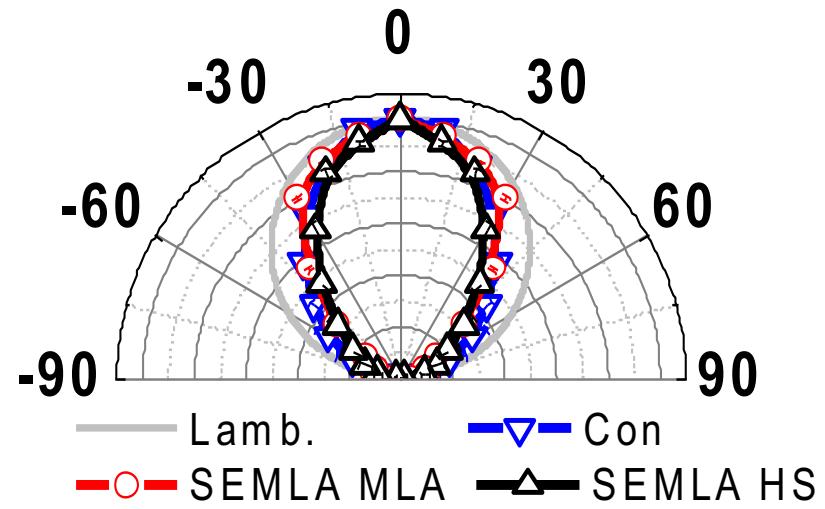
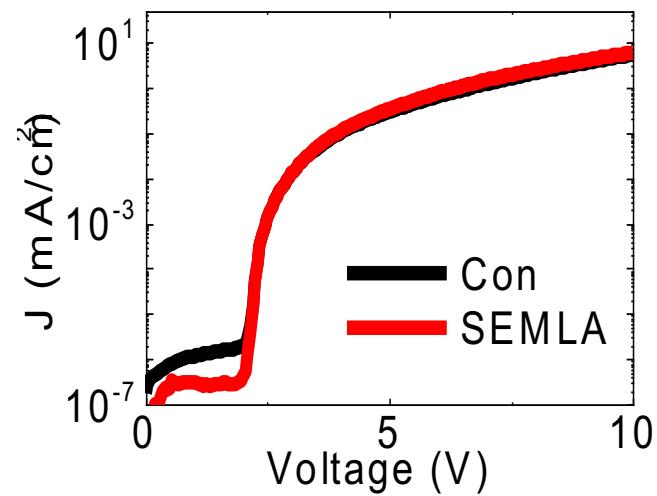
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SEMLAs Change the Outcoupling Landscape



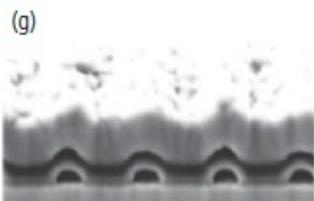
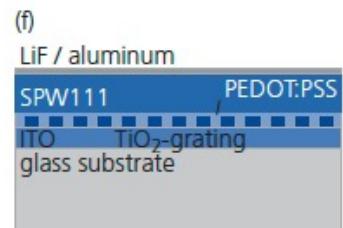
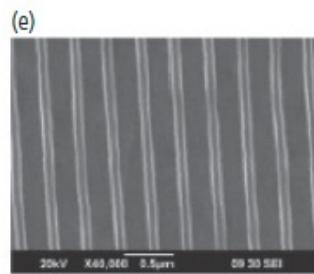
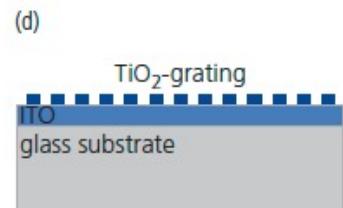
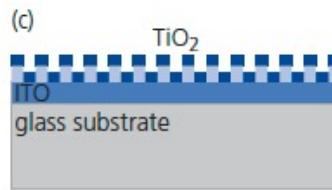
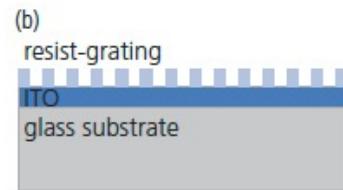
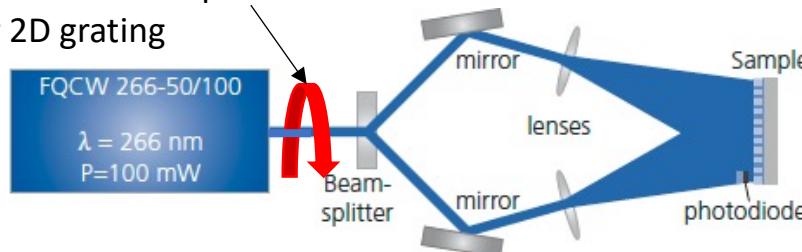
SPPs not completely eliminated

SEMLA Performance



Gratings Provide Efficient Waveguide Mode Outcoupling

rotate and re-expose
for 2D grating



Process for fabricating 1D and 2D gratings using optical interference resist exposure

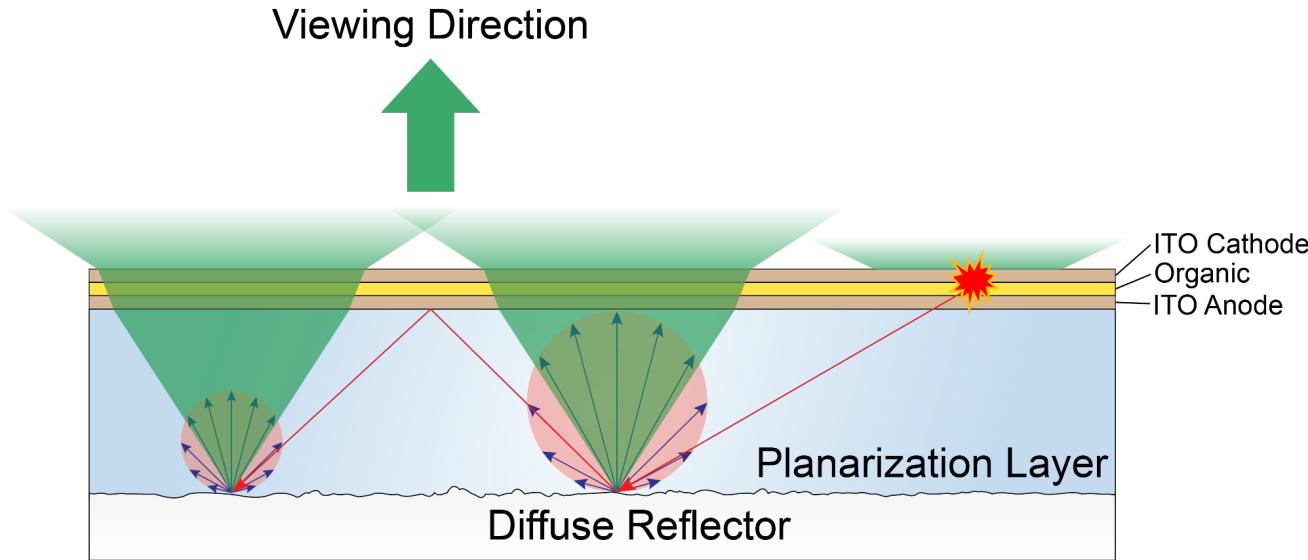
Advantages

Can be very efficient

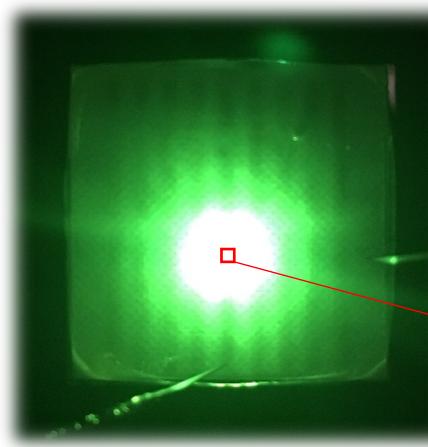
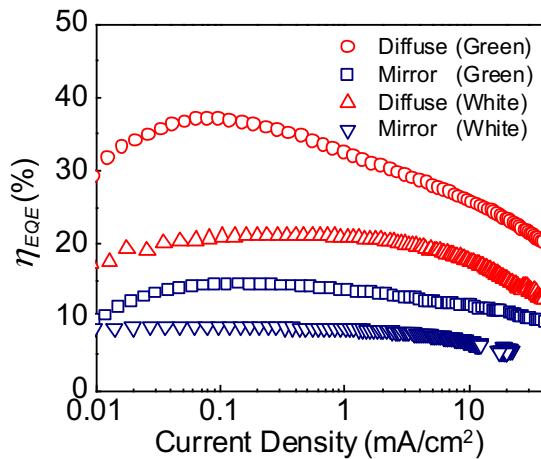
Disadvantages

Requires high resolution photolith over large areas
Very wavelength and angle dependent

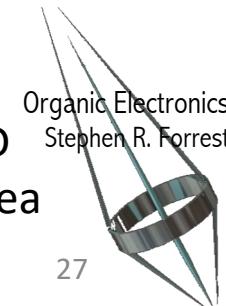
Diffuse Reflectors: Low Cost & Simple



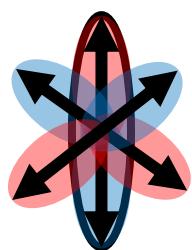
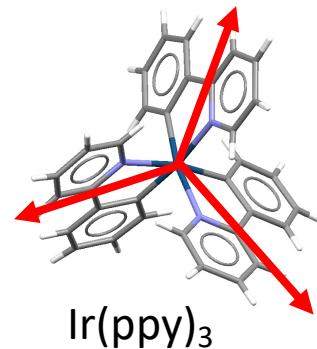
Teflon is the best diffuse dielectric reflector



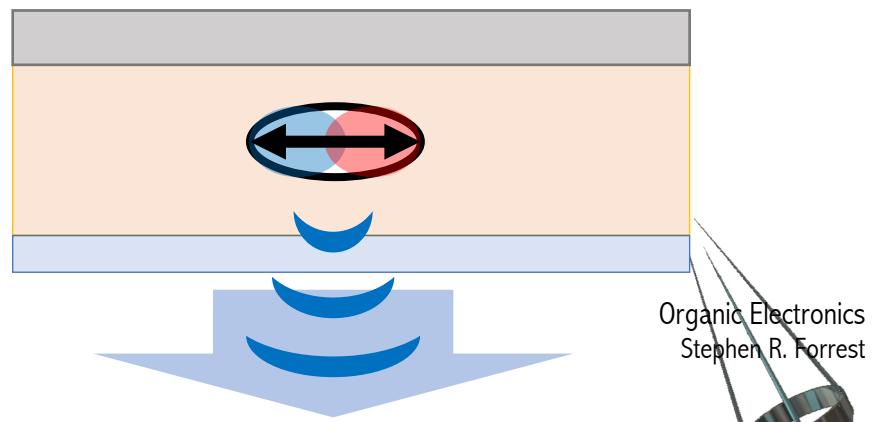
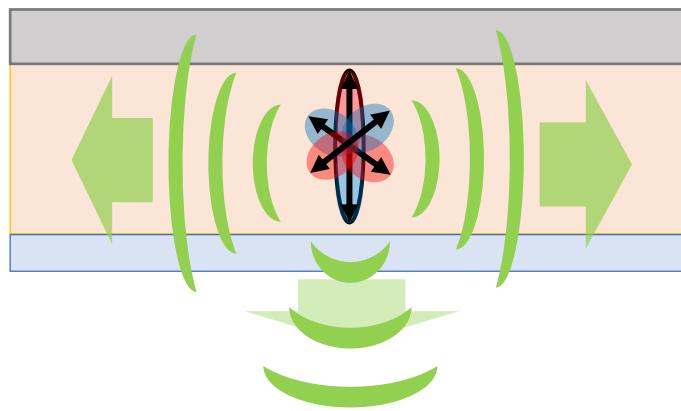
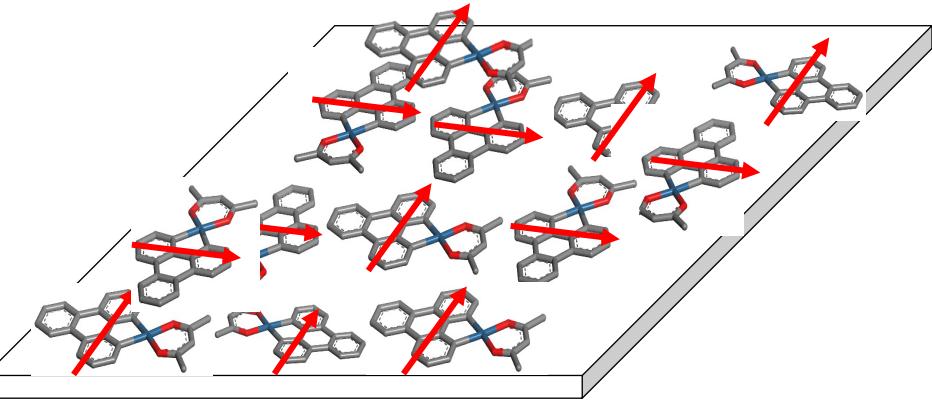
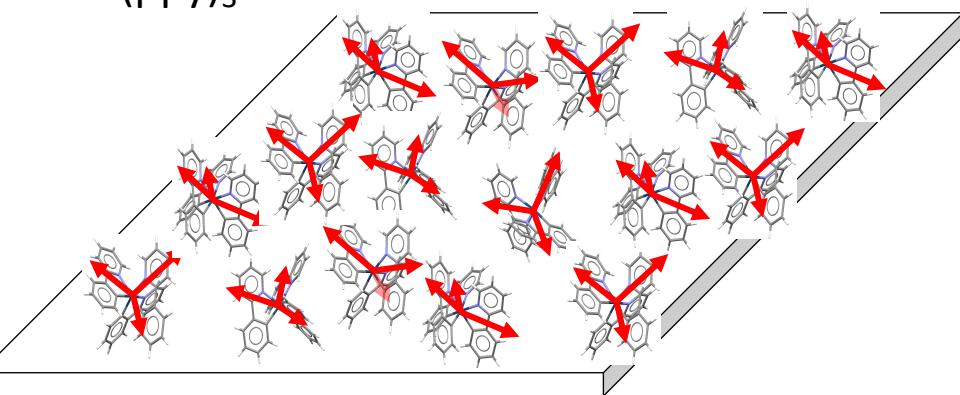
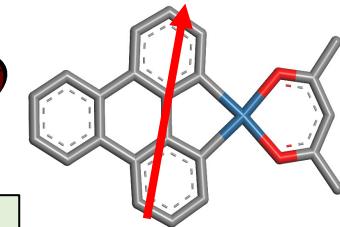
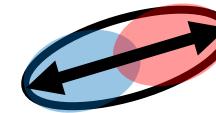
PHOLED
Active Area



Outcoupling Enhancements by Molecular Orientation

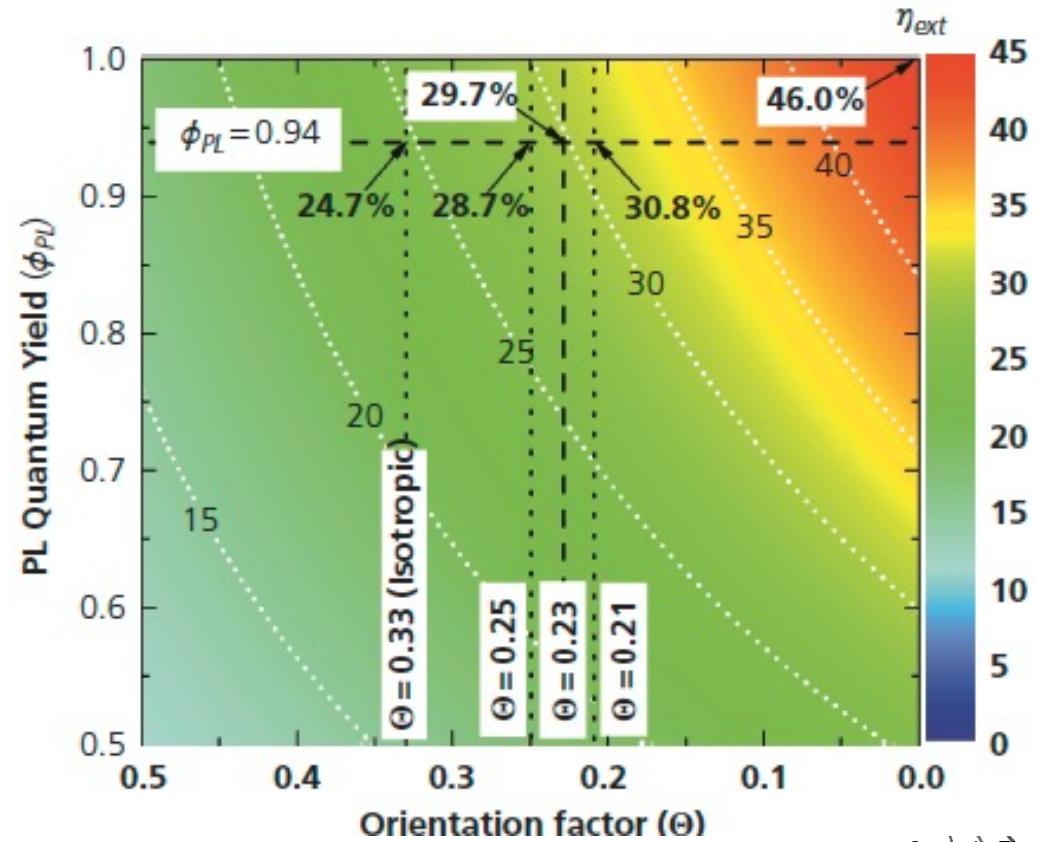
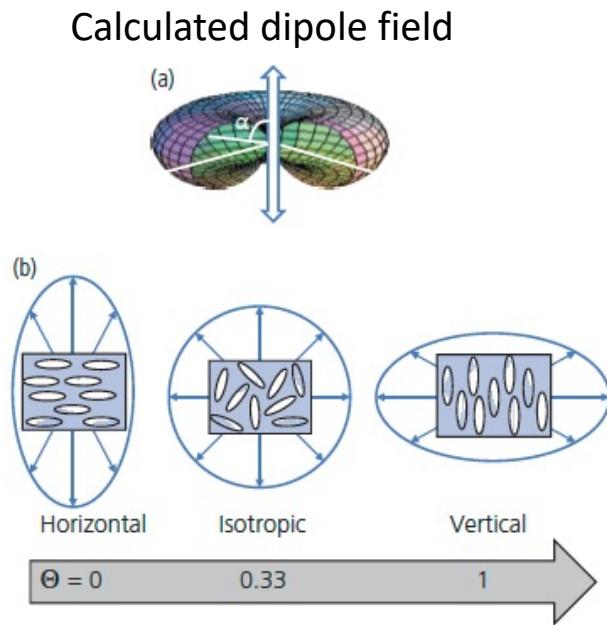


Horizontal Orientation



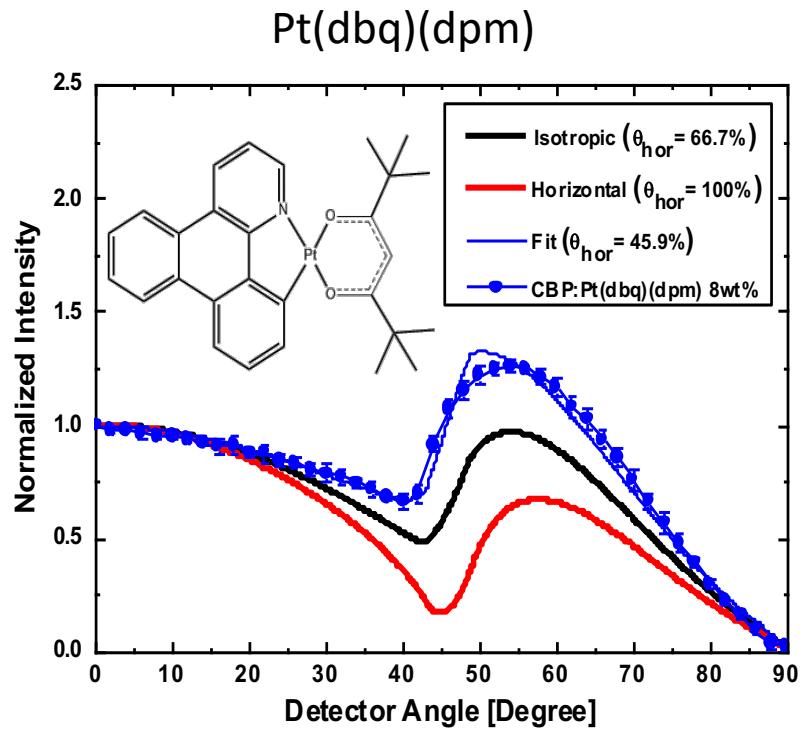
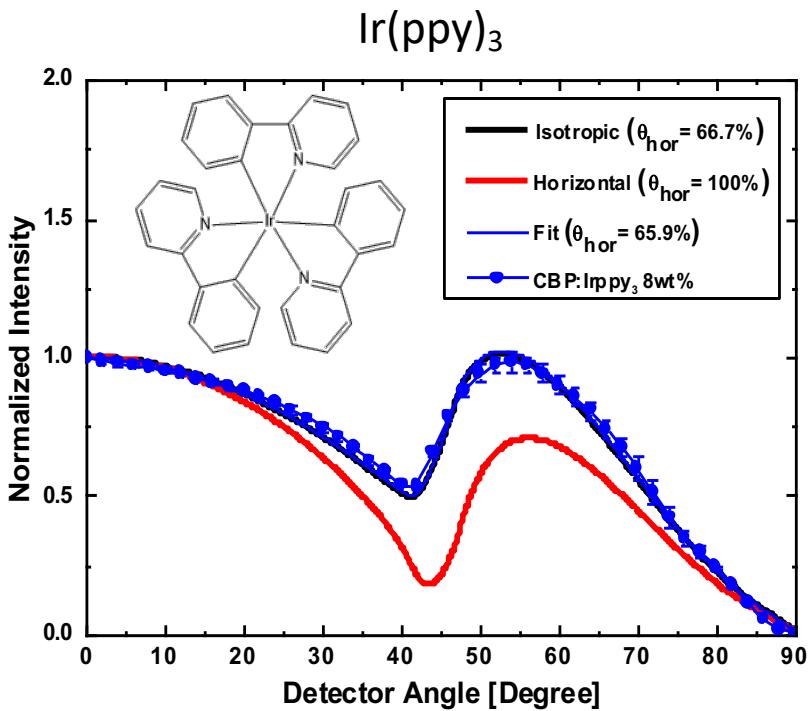
Planar molecules (e.g. Pt-complexes) more likely to align than octahedral (tris-Ir complexes)

Outcoupling Improvements via Alignment



Kim et al., Adv. Funct. Mater., 23, 3896 (2013)

Example results



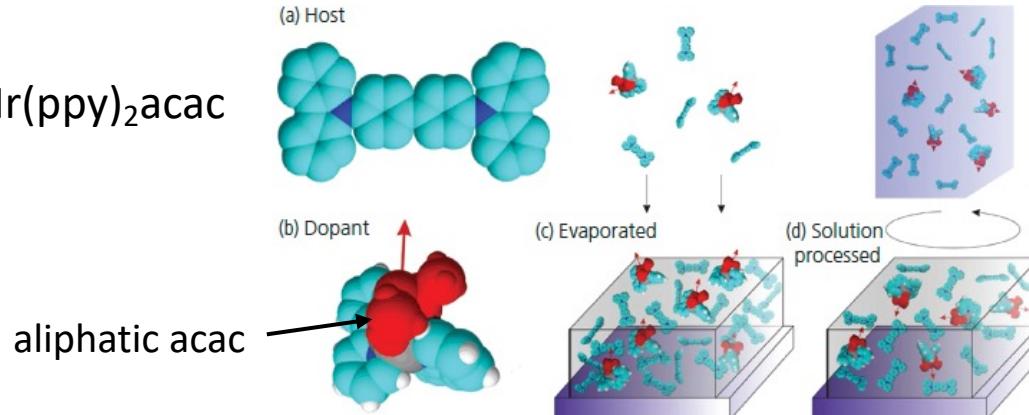
Ratio of light emitting by vertical to horizontal dipoles: $\Theta = \frac{TM_{||}}{TE_{\perp} + TM_{\perp} + TM_{||}}$

Approach challenges

- Added constraints on molecular design
- Added constraints on process (growth) conditions: may not align as expected
- Added constraints on device architecture
- Alignment is never “perfect”: only modest improvements

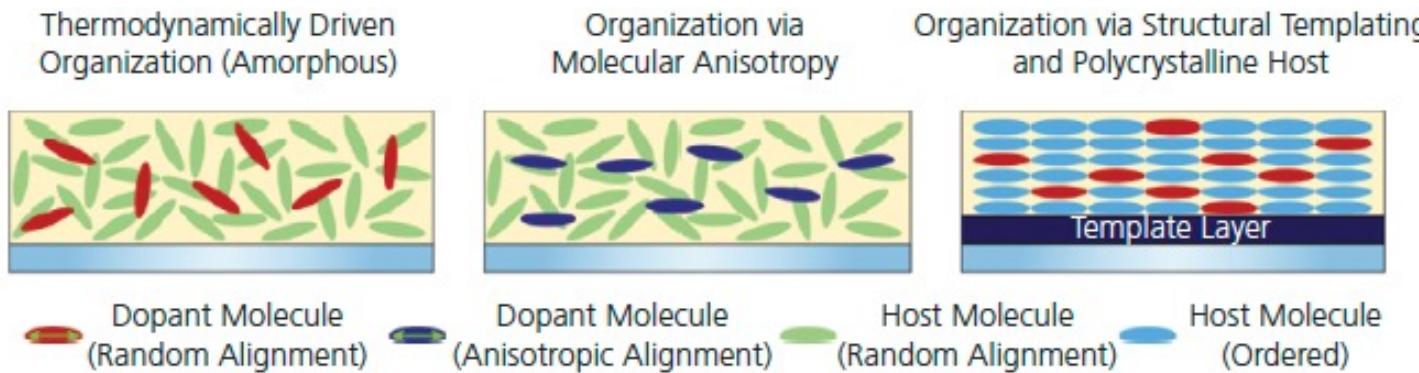
Alignment is Driven by Energy and Deposition Dynamics

Example: Ir(ppy)₂acac



Lampe, et al. Chem. Mater. 28, 712 (2016)

Molecular functionalization can drive orientation: Aliphatic groups avoid substrate



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Alignment can be “forced” by seeding the substrate with a thin molecular template

Kim, et al. Adv. Mater. 31, 1900921 (2016)

Substrate Corrugations Can Outcouple Waveguide Modes

- Waveguide thickness varies due to the corrugation.
- As the thickness changes, the mode distribution changes.
- When the waveguided power travels from thin to thick areas, the k vector needs to change direction to keep “being trapped”. Otherwise, the light is extracted.

A possible approach: Surface buckling?

