

Optical Spectroscopy during Growth of PTCDA-C<sub>60</sub> Complex Thin FilmsSunggook Park,<sup>\*,†</sup> Dmitri A. Tenne,<sup>†,‡</sup> Georgeta Salvan,<sup>†</sup> Thorsten U. Kampen,<sup>†</sup> and Dietrich R. T. Zahn<sup>†</sup>*Halbleiterphysik, TU Chemnitz, D-09107 Chemnitz, Germany, and Institute of Semiconductor Physics, 630090 Novosibirsk, Russia**Received: May 21, 2001*

Combined Raman and photoluminescence (PL) measurements were performed in situ and online during the formation of a PTCDA-C<sub>60</sub> charge transfer (CT) complex film using organic molecular beam deposition. It is found that two different processes compete during growth, namely the formation of PTCDA-C<sub>60</sub> CT complexes and the photopolymerization between C<sub>60</sub> molecules. The CT complexes, formed instantaneously upon the co-deposition of two molecules, decompose as the C<sub>60</sub> molecules forming the CT complexes undergo the photopolymerization with excess C<sub>60</sub> molecules. At low coverage, 70% of PTCDA molecules in the film form CT complexes with C<sub>60</sub>. The rate of CT complex formation decreases dramatically with the beginning of the photopolymerization after 11 min of deposition. The results prove the importance of preventing the formation of C<sub>60</sub>-C<sub>60</sub> pairs in order to keep the maximum ratio of CT complexes in the film under laser irradiation.

## Introduction

Among the fullerenes, C<sub>60</sub> has been the most widely studied due to its elegant molecular symmetry and intriguing structural, dynamic, and electronic properties.<sup>1–4</sup> Recently, there has been great interest in the development of C<sub>60</sub>-based materials because they display a rich variety of solid-state properties such as superconductivity, magnetic ordering, nonlinear optical properties. It is known that C<sub>60</sub> has strong electron-transfer interactions with donors.<sup>1,4</sup> The substantial complexation of a donor with C<sub>60</sub> results not only from a strong charge transfer (CT) interaction but also from the fact that the donor molecule is able to cover closely the C<sub>60</sub> molecules.<sup>5</sup> For this purpose, a lot of planar donors, such as tetrathiafulvalene, dithiadiazafulvalene, tetrathiotetracene, and pyranilidene families, have been widely investigated for the formation of donor–acceptor contacts with C<sub>60</sub>.<sup>6,7</sup> These molecules are rather weak donors, with ionization potentials (IP) of 5.7–7.1 eV, and form CT complexes with C<sub>60</sub> at different CT rates. In comparison with the rotationally disordered structure of C<sub>60</sub>, these C<sub>60</sub>-based CT complexes exhibit the lowest number of C<sub>60</sub>-C<sub>60</sub> neighbors and a correspondingly high number of donor–acceptor contacts.<sup>5</sup> It was also revealed that the CT from donors to C<sub>60</sub> and the deviation from the planarity in the geometry of the donors according to the formation of CT complexes affect the vibrational properties and electronic transitions.<sup>5</sup>

A prototype organic semiconductor 3,4,9,10-perylenetetracarboxylic dianhydride (PTCDA) has been used as a model system for the growth of organic layers by organic molecular beam deposition (OMBD) under ultrahigh vacuum (UHV) condition.<sup>8–18</sup> Due to its planar molecular structure and donor character (IP = 6.2 eV),<sup>19</sup> it can also be used as a model system for the growth of a donor–acceptor CT complex with C<sub>60</sub> using OMBD. Another advantage is that PTCDA films as well as crystals have been very well characterized, so that the change upon the formation of a CT complex can easily be distinguished.

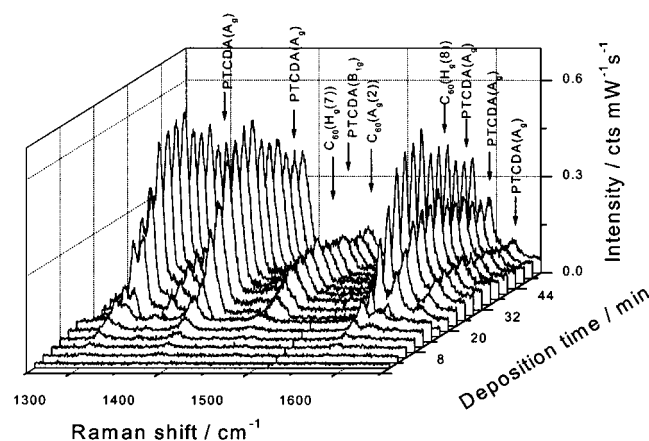
Raman and photoluminescence spectroscopies are well-known as versatile tools for the analysis of thin organic films, combining high spatial resolution, contactless and nondestructive character, the possibility of in situ thin-film characterization, and online monitoring of the growth process.<sup>11,13,16,20,21</sup> When characterizing the growth of a PTCDA-C<sub>60</sub> complex film, the growth of the isolated PTCDA and C<sub>60</sub> should also be considered. C<sub>60</sub> is well-known to undergo a photopolymerization upon laser irradiation via a 2+2 cycloaddition reaction.<sup>3,20–23</sup> Upon photopolymerization, Raman and PL spectra change significantly. In particular, the pentagonal pinch mode A<sub>g</sub>(2) at 1468 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the Raman spectra shifts toward lower frequency leading to a broad feature centered at 1459 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Recently, the growth of C<sub>60</sub> on different semiconductor surfaces was monitored in situ and online by combining Raman and photoluminescence (PL) spectroscopy.<sup>20,21</sup> This combined technique revealed that two different phases in the growth can be distinguished. At C<sub>60</sub> coverages below approximately 15 nm, the photopolymerization is suppressed. Both Raman and PL spectra in this region show only features corresponding to pristine C<sub>60</sub>, namely the A<sub>g</sub>(2) mode at 1468 cm<sup>-1</sup> and a broad PL feature centered at 750 nm, respectively. Upon further deposition of C<sub>60</sub>, photopolymerization can occur leading to a downshift of the A<sub>g</sub>(2) mode and a new feature at 820 nm in Raman and PL spectra, respectively. On the other hand, the Raman and PL spectra of PTCDA do not show any spectral change during growth.<sup>11,13</sup> This enables us to distinguish the formation of CT complexes with C<sub>60</sub> more easily from the change in features corresponding to PTCDA.

In this paper, we will present Raman and PL spectra taken quasi-simultaneously for the growth of a PTCDA-C<sub>60</sub> CT complex film under UHV condition. The formation of the PTCDA-C<sub>60</sub> CT complex results in significant changes of the feature due to the C–H bending vibrational mode of PTCDA. The fraction of PTCDA molecules forming the CT complex is found to decrease according to the degree of the photopolymerization between C<sub>60</sub> molecules. This result implies that it is very important to control the equivalent between donor and acceptor in order to get a higher CT complex formation rate.

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**Figure 1.** Raman monitoring as a function of deposition time during the co-deposition of PTCDA and C<sub>60</sub> on H-Si(111)-(1 × 1).

### Experimental Section

The PTCDA-C<sub>60</sub> films were prepared in an UHV chamber equipped with PTCDA and C<sub>60</sub> Knudsen cells. The base pressure of the chamber was  $3 \times 10^{-10}$  mbar. As a substrate, p-type Si(111) ( $R = 3 \sim 6 \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ ) was used. The substrates were chemically pretreated by immersing into hydrogen fluoride (HF, 40%) solution for 2 min to remove the oxide layer from the surface and passivating the surface with hydrogen. Then, the sample was introduced into the UHV chamber. The surface shows a (1 × 1) reconstruction by low electron energy diffraction (LEED) pattern. As preliminary experiments, respective PTCDA and C<sub>60</sub> were deposited onto such surfaces treated under identical conditions. The PTCDA and C<sub>60</sub> Knudsen cells were operated at 280 °C and 400 °C with deposition rates of 1 nm/min and 3 nm/min, respectively. The Raman intensity for a C<sub>60</sub> film is found to be much lower than that of a PTCDA film at a same thickness. Therefore, the deposition ratio PTCDA/C<sub>60</sub> = 1/3 was also applied during growth of co-deposited film. This also makes it easier to distinguish changes in the vibrational modes corresponding to PTCDA upon CT complex formation because all PTCDA molecules are expected to have a similar environment surrounded by a larger amount of C<sub>60</sub> molecules. Because the film thickness of the co-deposited film is not exactly known, the deposition time serves as a parameter in the results.

The UHV chamber is optically aligned to a triple monochromator (Dilor XY) and a single monochromator used for Raman and photoluminescence (PL) measurements, respectively. A CCD camera was used for multichannel detection. Raman and PL spectra were taken in situ and online during the co-deposition of PTCDA and C<sub>60</sub> onto the substrate. Both Raman and photoluminescence spectra were taken during a deposition series by changing the optical path for each monochromator every 90 s. This enables to avoid the experimental error that could occur between different deposition series. An Ar<sup>+</sup> laser (488 nm,  $P_{\text{flux}} = 28 \text{ W/cm}^2$ ) was used for excitation focused on the substrate to a spot of approximately 300 μm in diameter. This laser line shows the strongest resonant condition in the Raman spectra of PTCDA. All spectra were taken in a backscattering geometry. Accumulation times of 1 min and 2 s were used for Raman and photoluminescence measurements, respectively.

### Results and Discussion

Figure 1 displays the evolution of Raman spectra as a function of deposition time in the spectral range of 1250–1650 cm<sup>-1</sup> during co-deposition of PTCDA and C<sub>60</sub> on H-Si(111)-(1 × 1) surfaces. Previous measurements and theoretical calculations

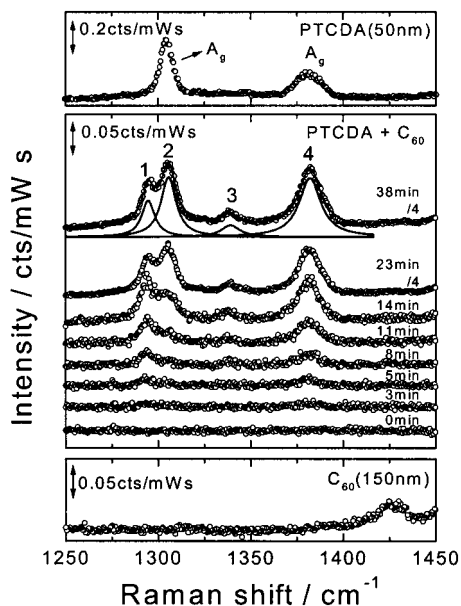
**TABLE 1: Frequency Positions Observed in Raman Spectra of PTCDA, C<sub>60</sub>, and PTCDA-C<sub>60</sub> Complex Films with Their Symmetry<sup>a</sup>**

PTCDA			C <sub>60</sub>			PTCDA-C <sub>60</sub>		
wavenumber/ cm <sup>-1</sup>		symmetry	wavenumber/ cm <sup>-1</sup>		symmetry	wavenumber/ cm <sup>-1</sup>		
233	w	A <sub>g</sub> C—O	268	w	H <sub>g</sub>	233	w	
431	w	B <sub>1g</sub>	431	vw		268	w	
			493	vw	A <sub>g</sub> (1)	431	vw	
538	w	A <sub>g</sub> ring deform.				538	w	
624	w	A <sub>g</sub> ring deform.				624	w	
			707	w	H <sub>g</sub>			
725	vw	A <sub>g</sub> ring deform.	773	vw	H <sub>g</sub>			
1051	w	A <sub>g</sub> C—H bend.	1242	vw	H <sub>g</sub>	1051	w	
						<b>1295</b>	vs	
1305	vs	A <sub>g</sub> C—H bend.				1305	vs	
						<b>1338</b>	w	
1381	s	A <sub>g</sub> C—H bend.				1381	vs	
			1426	m	H <sub>g</sub>			
						<b>1431</b>	w	
1451	w	B <sub>1g</sub> ring str.				1451	m	
						<b>1455</b>	m	
			1459	s	A <sub>g</sub> (2)	1459	m	
			1567	m	H <sub>g</sub>			
1572	s	A <sub>g</sub> C—C str.				1573	s	
1591	s	A <sub>g</sub> C—C str.				1592	s	
1617	w	A <sub>g</sub> C—H str.				1617	w	

<sup>a</sup> The symmetry is referenced from previous studies of Eklund et al.<sup>2</sup>, Scholz et al.,<sup>18</sup> and Akers et al.<sup>24</sup> Bold numbers represent features appearing only for the PTCDA-C<sub>60</sub> complex films. s = strong, m = medium, w = weak, v = very.

have shown that the most intensive features of both PTCDA and C<sub>60</sub> exist in this spectral range.<sup>3,11–13,18,20–25</sup> The featureless spectrum at 0 min corresponds to the hydrogen passivated Si(111) surface. As the deposition goes on, new features appear due to inelastic scattering of co-deposited PTCDA and C<sub>60</sub>. The peaks are assigned according to previous Raman studies of C<sub>60</sub> and PTCDA films<sup>2,18,24</sup> and they are presented with their symmetry in Table 1. Although a higher evaporation rate was used for C<sub>60</sub>, the intensity of its most intensive feature, namely A<sub>g</sub>(2) mode of C<sub>60</sub> in the region of 1450–1468 cm<sup>-1</sup>, is much lower than peaks corresponding to PTCDA at 1305, 1381, and 1572 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This is in good agreement with the results of the preliminary deposition of bare PTCDA and C<sub>60</sub> films. In addition, a modulation of the intensity was observed during the growth, which is attributed to a Fabry–Perot interference effect of the incident and scattered light within the layer. Upon a close look at the spectra, changes can be seen in the regions of 1295–1340 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1450–1470 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The former corresponds to A<sub>g</sub> C—H bending modes of PTCDA and the latter to the pentagonal pinch A<sub>g</sub>(2) mode of C<sub>60</sub>. Because a higher evaporation rate was used for C<sub>60</sub>, it is expected that the probability of a C<sub>60</sub> molecule neighboring to another C<sub>60</sub> molecule is rather high, thus favoring photopolymerization upon laser irradiation. In the following, we will examine these spectral regions of the A<sub>g</sub> C—H bending modes of PTCDA and the A<sub>g</sub>(2) mode of C<sub>60</sub> in more detail.

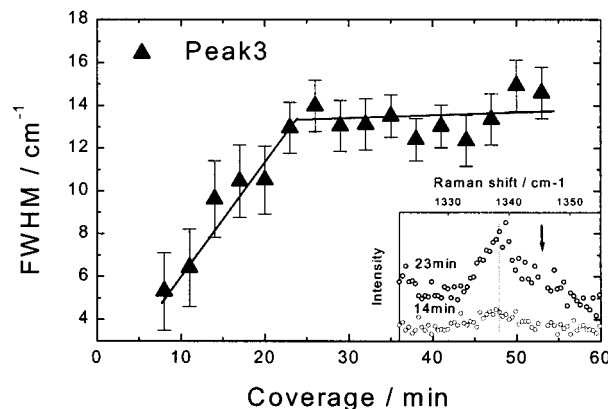
Figure 2 shows the Raman spectra in the spectral region of 1250–1450 cm<sup>-1</sup> as a function of deposition time. In this region, only two strong A<sub>g</sub> C—H bending modes of PTCDA at 1305 and 1381 cm<sup>-1</sup> exist, whereas there is only a weak feature at 1426 cm<sup>-1</sup> corresponding to C<sub>60</sub>. Therefore, the changes in the vibrational modes of PTCDA due to the co-deposition of C<sub>60</sub> and PTCDA can easily be detected in this region. From the



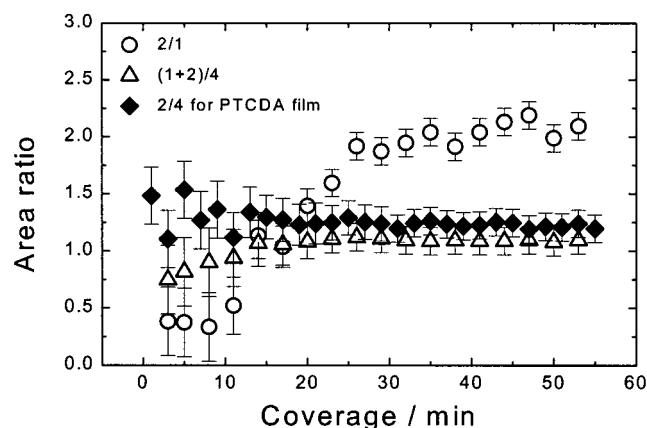
**Figure 2.** Individual Raman spectra in the spectral range of 1250–1450  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  during the co-deposition of PTCDA and  $\text{C}_{60}$  on H-Si(111)–(1  $\times$  1). A representative 4-Lorentzian curve fitting result is included at the spectrum of 38 min. For comparison, the Raman spectra for 50 nm PTCDA (upper spectrum) and 150 nm  $\text{C}_{60}$  (lower spectrum) films are included.

beginning of the deposition features at 1295 and 1381  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  denoted peaks 1 and 4 in Figure 2 appear. At the shoulder on the right-hand side of the 1295  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  feature, an additional small feature is seen at 1305  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (peak 2). This small feature corresponds to an  $\text{A}_g$  C–H bending mode of PTCDA, whereas the feature at 1295  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is new and should be related to the formation of PTCDA- $\text{C}_{60}$  CT complexes. As the thickness of the film increases, the intensity of the peak at 1305  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  with respect to that at 1295  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  increases. This indicates an increasing portion of PTCDA molecules that do not form CT complexes with  $\text{C}_{60}$ . The spectra taken after 23 min are all identical in line shape. An additional new feature has also appeared at 1338  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (peak 3) and increases with increasing deposition time. According to a Raman study of PTCDA films by Akers et al.,<sup>24</sup> strong peaks at 1294 and 1341  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  were observed when a nonresonance laser line at 647.1 nm was used or when a surface-enhanced Raman (SER) spectrum was taken from PTCDA on silver (Ag) islands using resonant laser lines at 488 and 514.5 nm. However, these features were suppressed without SER conditions even though 488 and 514.5 nm lines were used. They were interpreted as being a result of a lifting of the selection rules.<sup>24</sup> Most probably, the charge transfer between Ag and PTCDA in the SERS condition leads to the excitation of the vibrational mode that is forbidden in a non-SER condition. The appearance of the peaks at 1295 and 1338  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the PTCDA and  $\text{C}_{60}$  coevaporated film indicates the formation of the charge transfer between two molecules, violating the selection rules of bare PTCDA films. Thus, it can be concluded that there are two different chemical states of PTCDA molecules existing in the coevaporated film, one of bare PTCDA and the other corresponding to PTCDA forming CT complexes with  $\text{C}_{60}$ . Moreover, the ratio of the peak intensities at 1295  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  with respect to that of 1305  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is indicative of the amount of the PTCDA forming CT complexes with  $\text{C}_{60}$ .

To quantitatively understand structural changes during the co-deposition of  $\text{C}_{60}$  and PTCDA, the four peaks at 1295, 1305, 1338, and 1381  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  were curve fitted using four Lorentzian



**Figure 3.** Time evolution of the FWHM corresponding to peak 3 at 1338  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  during the co-deposition of PTCDA and  $\text{C}_{60}$  on H-Si(111)–(1  $\times$  1). A solid line is included as a guide for the eyes. The spectra in the region of peak 3 at 14 and 23 min of deposition are represented in the inset.

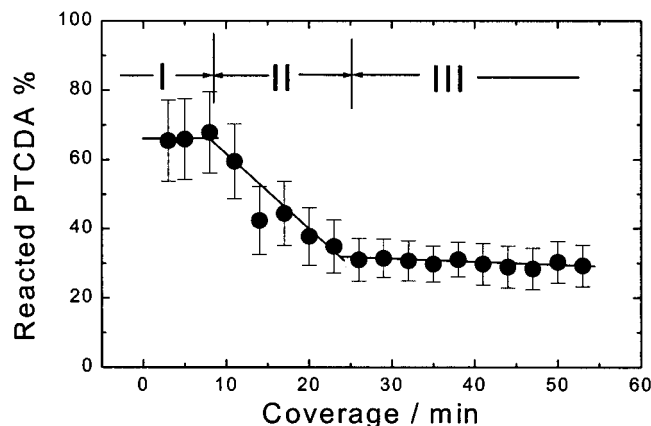


**Figure 4.** Time evolution of the area ratio between two peaks.  $\circ$  and  $\triangle$  represent area ratio between peaks 1 and 2, and the sum of area for peaks 1 and 2 divided by the area of peak 4 for the PTCDA- $\text{C}_{60}$  co-deposited film.  $\blacklozenge$  represents area ratio between peaks 2 and 4 for bare PTCDA film.

functions. A representative curve fitting result is presented in the topmost spectra for co-deposited film in Figure 2. These four peaks are labeled 1–4. For peak 3, curve fitting was difficult below a deposition time of 5 min due to its low intensity. For all peaks, no shift in the frequency positions is observed during the deposition. The full widths at half maximum (FWHMs) are also constant except for that of peak 3, which is shown in Figure 3. The FWHM increases continuously and reaches 13  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  after 23 min, i.e., the same time at which the intensity ratio of peaks 1 to 2 reaches a constant value (Figure 2). A close look at the spectra in the region of peak 3 (inset in Figure 3) reveals the presence of a small shoulder at the high frequency side after 23 min, which does not exist or is too weak to be observed at 14 min. The increase of this shoulder seems to contribute to the increase in the FWHM of peak 3. The FWHMs for peaks 2 and 4 agree well with the previously reported values of 9.8 and 13.7  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for a PTCDA film.<sup>18</sup>

The relative area between peaks 1 and 2 clearly illustrates the change in the amount of PTCDA molecules forming PTCDA- $\text{C}_{60}$  CT complexes during growth (circles in Figure 4). Below a deposition time of 8 min, the relative area between peaks 1 and 2 is constant. As the deposition continues, the area for peak 2 increases strongly with respect to peak 1 indicating an increasing portion of PTCDA that does not form PTCDA- $\text{C}_{60}$  complexes. After 23 min, the area ratio remains constant again.

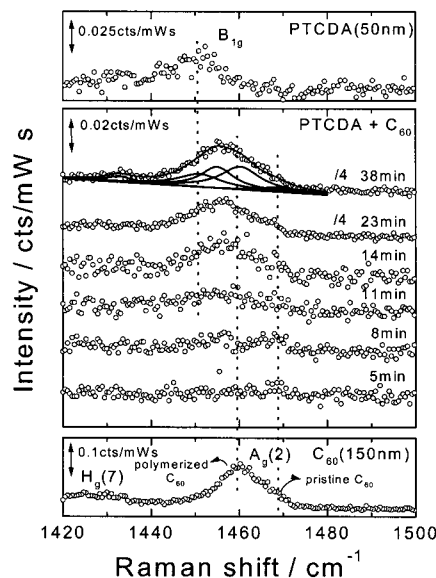




**Figure 5.** The fraction of PTCDA in the co-deposited film forming CT complexes with  $C_{60}$ . A solid line is included as a guide for the eyes.

Despite the change in relative area, however, the sum of the areas for peaks 1 and 2 is almost constant during the entire deposition time when normalized to peak 4 (triangles in Figure 4). Additionally, this sum of the areas for peaks 1 and 2 with respect to peak 4 agrees well with the area ratio of peak 2/peak 4 for a bare PTCDA film (diamonds in Figure 4). Assuming that the sum of the area for peaks 1 and 2 is indicative of the total number of PTCDA in the film, a fraction of PTCDA molecules forming CT complexes with  $C_{60}$  can be estimated (see Figure 5). The behavior observed can be divided into three regimes. In the first regime, 70% of PTCDA deposited form PTCDA- $C_{60}$  complexes. In the second regime, the portion of the PTCDA forming CT complexes with  $C_{60}$  decreases. Finally, after 23 min when a constant fraction of  $C_{60}$  participates in the photopolymerisation, only 30% of PTCDA in the film takes part in the PTCDA- $C_{60}$  complex formation.

The reason the chemical composition of the PTCDA- $C_{60}$  CT complex film changes during the deposition can be found by looking at the spectra in the region of the  $A_g(2)$  mode of  $C_{60}$ . Raman spectra in this range of 1420–1500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are presented in Figure 6 as a function of deposition time. For comparison, the spectra taken for thick films of  $C_{60}$  (150 nm) and PTCDA (50 nm) are again included. In this spectral region, the  $H_g(7)$  and  $A_g(2)$  modes of  $C_{60}$  exist centered at 1426 and 1459  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , respectively, and a  $B_{1g}$  ring stretch mode of PTCDA at 1451  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . For the spectra of the PTCDA- $C_{60}$  co-deposited film, it should be first mentioned that the signal-to-noise ratio is fairly weak. Therefore, the spectra below 5 min hardly reveal any signal. After 8 min deposition, weak features centered at 1468 and 1455  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  appear. The peak at 1468  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  corresponds to pristine  $C_{60}$  which is expected to exist in the film due to the higher evaporation rate of  $C_{60}$  relative to that of PTCDA. From the previous Raman study for the growth of  $C_{60}$  on different substrates, it is known that photopolymerization between  $C_{60}$  molecules is suppressed at coverages below 15 nm irrespective of the substrate despite the continuous irradiation of the laser line for the Raman measurement.<sup>20,21</sup> It can be seen from the initial appearance of the peak at 1468  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  corresponding to pristine  $C_{60}$  that this suppression effect also seems to hold for the co-deposited film. On the other hand, the new feature at 1455  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  indicates the formation of  $C_{60}$ -PTCDA complexes. According to Dresselhaus et al.,<sup>22</sup> Raman spectra of solid  $C_{60}$  doped with different alkali metals show a softening of the  $A_g(2)$  mode at 1468  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , resulting in downshift of the peak. The more CT occurs, the more the position of  $A_g(2)$  mode shifts toward lower frequency. Therefore, the softening of  $A_g(2)$  mode is an indication of CT to  $C_{60}$ . This behavior was also observed



**Figure 6.** Individual Raman spectra in the vicinity of the pentagonal pinch mode  $A_g(2)$  of  $C_{60}$  during the co-deposition of PTCDA and  $C_{60}$  on H-Si(111)-(1  $\times$  1). For comparison, the Raman spectra for thick PTCDA (upper spectrum) and  $C_{60}$  (lower spectrum) are included. Dot lines included indicate the frequency positions corresponding to  $B_{1g}$  mode of bare PTCDA and  $A_g(2)$  mode of pristine and polymerized  $C_{60}$ .

for a molecular CT complex TDAE- $C_{60}$  (where TDAE is tetrakis(dimethylamino)ethylene).<sup>26</sup> Upon further deposition, the broad feature centered at 1455  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  increases relative to that at 1468  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . However, the curve fitting of this broad feature reveals four different components with reasonable FWHMs ranging 6.5–12  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . From the fitting, the peak at 1459  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  increases between 11 and 23 min with respect to that at 1468  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , which indicates the photopolymerization of  $C_{60}$ . Besides, a lower frequency shoulder of the peak at 1455  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  can be recognized, which can be attributed to a  $B_{1g}$  ring stretch mode of PTCDA. After 23 min, no more changes occur in the spectra. The time is again in agreement with the time when the portion of the PTCDA molecules undergoing the formation of CT complexes with  $C_{60}$  and the FWHM of the peak at 1338  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  becomes constant.

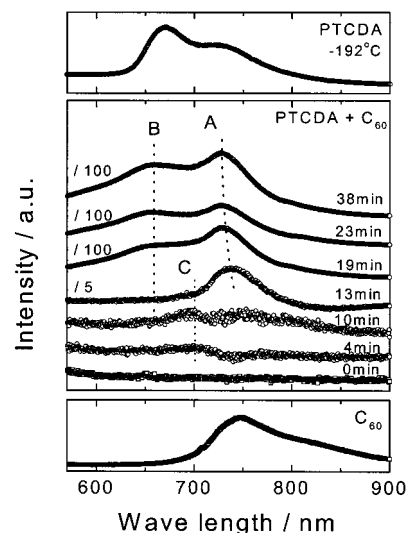
The photopolymerization between  $C_{60}$  molecules is a time-dependent process depending on the laser power used. For PTCDA- $C_{60}$  CT complexes there should be no slow measurable rate of formation and they should be instantaneously formed as the two species are co-deposited in a uniform manner. Thus, these two processes should occur in sequence. Because the higher evaporation rate is used for  $C_{60}$ , most of the PTCDA molecules deposited are expected to form CT complexes with  $C_{60}$  instantaneously, followed by the breakage of the complexes as the photopolymerization between  $C_{60}$  molecules proceeds. However, the Raman spectrum measured post-growth with longer accumulation time (10 min) shows an identical line shape of the pentagonal pinch mode region of  $C_{60}$  to that during the growth (accumulation time = 1 min), except for the deposition time when the photopolymerization is suppressed. The only difference is the signal-to-noise ratio. This indicates that the photopolymerization at this laser power completes within the accumulation time (1 min) for the Raman measurement and, thus, the spectral change cannot be influenced by the time-dependent transient of photopolymerization. Therefore, the measured spectra can be considered to be those in quasi-equilibrium states at each deposition time and they may be different if a different laser power is used.

Upon photopolymerization between  $C_{60}$  molecules various polymeric states can be formed, depending on the laser power and the substrate temperature used for the growth.<sup>20,21,27</sup> The density functional tight binding (DF-TB) energy difference between the different oligomers and isolated  $C_{60}$  molecules calculated by Porezag et al.<sup>27,28</sup> shows that the formation of dimers is most probable and that the formation of higher oligomers needs higher energy. They also calculated the Raman frequencies and intensities for different oligomeric  $C_{60}$ . According to their calculation, the broad peak centered at  $1459\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the preliminary Raman results of the  $C_{60}$  growth (lowest spectrum in Figure 6) indicates that the film with the laser power used consists mainly of dimers. Thus, even though the formation energy of a PTCDA- $C_{60}$ -CT complex is not known, it is unlikely that CT complexes of a dimeric  $C_{60}$  with PTCDA (PTCDA- $C_{60}$ - $C_{60}$ ) can form. Accordingly, the polymeric state of  $C_{60}$  in the CT complex film is expected to be dimers.

Altogether, there are two processes occurring during the co-deposition of PTCDA and  $C_{60}$ , namely the formation of CT complexes between two species and the photopolymerization between  $C_{60}$  molecules. The PTCDA- $C_{60}$  CT complexes are formed instantaneously upon co-deposition. The breakage of the CT complexes follows according to the degree of the photopolymerization of  $C_{60}$  and  $C_{60}$  dimers are mainly formed. Therefore, in the regime where the photopolymerization between  $C_{60}$  is suppressed, a higher rate of  $C_{60}$ -PTCDA CT complexes formed upon co-deposition remains, whereas this rate decreases with the beginning of the photopolymerization of  $C_{60}$ . After 23 min, no more changes occur, indicating the constant ratio between the formation of the CT complexes and the photopolymerization of  $C_{60}$ . Since the photopolymerization can break the CT complexes only when an excess  $C_{60}$  is neighboring to a CT complex, this result suggests that in designing an acceptor-donor complex with  $C_{60}$  it is very important to reduce the number of  $C_{60}$ - $C_{60}$  pairs in the film in order to keep the maximum number of CT complexes under the laser illumination.

After growth the Raman spectrum was measured in the region of  $50\text{--}1700\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and the positions of features observed are presented in Table 1. The frequency positions in the table were taken at maximum peak positions in the spectra without further fitting procedure. There are four features at 1295, 1338, 1431, and  $1455\text{ cm}^{-1}$  observed only for the PTCDA- $C_{60}$  complex film. Except these four peaks and even though some weak features of bare  $C_{60}$  and PTCDA were not observed for the PTCDA- $C_{60}$  complex film, the spectrum seems to be merely a superposition of spectra corresponding to bare  $C_{60}$  and PTCDA films.

The PL spectra during the co-deposition of  $C_{60}$  and PTCDA as a function of deposition time are presented in Figure 7. Each spectrum was accumulated for 2 s. The spectra can again be compared to those for thick  $C_{60}$  and PTCDA films. The PL spectrum for the PTCDA film was measured at  $-192^\circ\text{C}$ , whereas that for  $C_{60}$  at RT. The lowest spectrum (0 min) corresponds to the H-Si(111)-(1 × 1) surface. During the co-deposition of  $C_{60}$  and PTCDA significant changes can be observed in the spectra. At low coverage, i.e., at a deposition time of 4 min, a feature appears at 700 nm (peak C). In this region, the film consists of 70% of PTCDA forming PTCDA- $C_{60}$  CT complex, 30% of PTCDA, and excess pristine  $C_{60}$ , as judged from Raman spectra. However, the features corresponding to PTCDA and pristine  $C_{60}$  are hardly seen. The feature at around 700 nm was observed for  $C_{60}$  crystals grown from purified powder<sup>29</sup> and highly pressurized  $C_{60}$ .<sup>23,30</sup> It was interpreted as resulting from transitions of  $C_{60}$  molecules located in



**Figure 7.** Photoluminescence spectra during the co-deposition of PTCDA and  $C_{60}$  on H-Si(111)-(1 × 1). For comparison, the PL spectra for 50 nm PTCDA (upper spectrum) and 150 nm  $C_{60}$  (lower spectrum) are included.

an imperfect crystal environment, such as molecules adjacent to chemical impurities, to crystal defects, or to crystal surface,<sup>29–31</sup> resulting in emissions from transitions which are forbidden in isolated  $C_{60}$ . Such imperfection can possibly occur during the PTCDA- $C_{60}$  CT formation, resulting in the feature at 700 nm. For the spectra at 10 and 13 min at which the rate of the complexation between  $C_{60}$  and PTCDA begins to decrease, a PL peak centered at 750 nm appears (peak A). By comparison of PL spectra for bare  $C_{60}$  and PTCDA films, the feature centered at 750 nm seems to be mostly due to emission from  $C_{60}$ . With increasing deposition time, the peak A at 750 nm shifts toward lower wavelength and a new feature at 660 nm (peak B) can be observed. Both indicate the increasing contribution of emissions from PTCDA molecules, which is in a good agreement with the Raman results. No more change in PL spectra is observed after a deposition time of 23 min, which also agrees well with the results from the Raman spectra.

## Summary

In situ and online Raman and PL spectroscopies were employed during the growth of a PTCDA- $C_{60}$  CT complex film on hydrogen passivated Si(111)-(1 × 1) using OMBD. Significant changes in the C-H bending vibrational modes of PTCDA and Ag(2) mode of  $C_{60}$  indicate the formation of CT complexes. From the intensity ratio between the Raman peaks at  $1305\text{ cm}^{-1}$  corresponding to pristine PTCDA and at  $1295\text{ cm}^{-1}$  originated from PTCDA- $C_{60}$  CT complexes, the ratio of PTCDA molecules involved in the CT formation was estimated. Upon co-deposition of the two species, 70% of PTCDA molecules in the film are found to take part in the CT formation with  $C_{60}$ . It reduces with the beginning of the photopolymerization between  $C_{60}$  molecules and after 23 min it reaches 30%. The change in Raman spectra agrees very well with that in PL spectra. The results indicate that in order to keep the maximum number of CT complexes in the film under laser irradiation, the neighboring of  $C_{60}$  to other  $C_{60}$  should be kept at the minimum possible. It is also proven that PTCDA, which has been widely investigated as a model system for OMBD, can be also used as a donor for the formation of a donor-acceptor complex using OMBD.

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