



# Exploring polymorphism in molecular organic thin films

By Kaltenegger Martin

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Lead-phthalocyanine











### **ULB** What is polymorphism?



- 1 molecule exists in different crystal structures (packing)
- $\rightarrow$ Impact on properties
  - (stability, morphology, processability, ...)



ULB

Brazilian Journal of Analytical Chemistry 2020, Volume 7, Issue 26, pp 12-17 doi: 10.30744/brjac.2179-3425.letter.rmbdezena.N26

#### LETTER

Ritonavir Polymorphism: Analytical Chemistry Approach to Problem Solving in the Pharmaceutical Industry

BAAC

Renan M. B. Dezena 💿 🖂 Preformulation Specialist Pharmaceutical Industry, Campinas, SP, Brazil

R.M.B. Dezena, Braz.J.Anal.Chem. 2020, 7 (26), 12-17

#### THE SIX POLYMORPHS OF CHOCOLATE



*The Polymorphs of Chocolate – Compound Interest (compoundchem.com)* 



### **What is polymorphism?**



- 1 molecule exists in different crystal forms (packing)
- →Impact on different properties (stability, morphology, processability, ...)
- Limited access in bulk crystallization
- Some phase only observable on surfaces





### **ULB** Heterogeneous nucleation

- Nucleation: 1st step of crystallization
- $\rightarrow$  Seems to determine polymorph
- Heterogeneous: on dust or surfaces
- $\rightarrow$ Lowers the activation energy  $\Delta G^*$













- Substrate-induced-polymorphism (SIP) should be related to 2D crystallization
- For now: only a few molecular systems
- →Fundamental understanding necessary



Yves Geerts, kickoff meeting, 12.06.2018



2Dto3D





# Thesis subject & strategy



### Subject

- Investigations on polymorphism
- show the influence of different substrates on thin film formation



Principals substrate-induced-polymorphism (SIP)

### **Planned Strategy**

- <u>3-4 parts:</u>
  - 1. SiO<sub>x</sub> substrates
  - 2. Highly orientated pyrolytic graphite (HOPG)
  - 3. SiO<sub>x</sub> + graphene
  - 4. SiO<sub>x</sub> + graphene + chemisorbed molecules





### **ULB** Thin film preparation



- From solutions:
  - Drop casting (covered)
  - Spin coating
  - Dip coating



- <u>Solution free:</u>
  - Physical vapor deposition (PVD)





AR Coating Techniques: Thin Film Deposition Methods (findlight.net)



# Lead phthalocyanine (PbPc)

- <u>Physical vapour deposition</u>
- <u>Substrate:</u> HOPG, Graphene & SiOx
- <u>Known structure</u>: triclinic







### **ULB** Substrate-induced polymorph



pubs.acs.org/cm



Article

From 2D to 3D: Bridging Self-Assembled Monolayers to a Substrate-Induced Polymorph in a Molecular Semiconductor

Yansong Hao, Gangamallaiah Velpula, Martin Kaltenegger, Wolfgang Rao Bodlos, François Vibert, Kunal S. Mali, Steven De Feyter, Roland Resel, Yves Henri Geerts, Sandra Van Aert, David Beljonne, and Roberto Lazzaroni\*





### **ULB** Methods of examination





- Specular X-ray diffraction:
  - Bragg condition:  $\lambda = 2d_{hkl}\sin(\frac{2\theta}{2})$
  - Laue condition:  $\vec{q} = \vec{G}$
- Grazing incidence X-ray diffraction:
  - Diffraction due to evanescent waves
  - Incoming angle  $\alpha_i \neq \alpha_f$

• 
$$\vec{q} = \begin{pmatrix} q_x \\ q_y \\ q_z \end{pmatrix} = \vec{k} - \vec{k_0}$$



### ULB PbPc: 40 nm on HOPG





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### **TIB** From GIXD to crystal structure solution



grazing incidence x-ray diffraction

> determine unit cell parameters

2 extract intensities (|F(hkl)|<sup>2</sup>)

**3** molecular dynamics simulations





### **ULB** Indexation with GIDInd\*



- refined unit cell
- 110 texture
- Energy optimization (Y. Hao, Mons)

	Predicted	Refined
a [Å]	7.707	8.140
b [Å]	13.231	12.860
c [Å]	13.300	13.030
α [°]	71.39	68.41
β [°]	80.71	80.95
γ [°]	78.09	81.21
V [Å <sup>-3</sup> ]	1250.95	1245.79



\* M. P. Kainz, M. Kaltenegger et al, Appl. Cryst. 2021,54, 1256-1267

### **PbPc on Graphene & SiOx**



• (<u>14</u> <u>14</u> - 1) - orientation



- (33-1)-orientation
- High mosaicity





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# Conclusion lead-phthalocyanine



- Substrate-induced polymorph confirmed
- Similar orientation on different substrates
  - $\rightarrow$  flat-on







# <sup>**ULB**</sup> Phenoxazine



pubs.acs.org/crystal



Article

#### Molecular Packing of Phenoxazine: A Combined Single-Crystal/ Crystal Structure Prediction Study

Martin Kaltenegger, Louis Delaive, Sai Manoj Gali, Patrick Brocorens, Oliver Werzer, Hans Riegler, Yves Henri Geerts, Roberto Lazzaroni, Roland Resel,\* and Jie Liu

Cite This: https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.cgd.1c00691







# Thin film growth kinetics





19 **TU** Graz

### ULB Kinetically driven polymorph





### **Phenoxazine on multiple substrates**

All samples show kinetic driven polymorph  $\rightarrow$  (001)-orientation HOPG: smeared-out peaks  $\rightarrow$  mosaicity Graphene: clear peaks  $\rightarrow$  texture Carboxylic-acid: smeared-out peaks  $\rightarrow$  mosaicity







### **ULB** Conclusion phenoxazine

Lp

- 2 polymorphic structures solved
- End-on orientations
- Form 2: kinetic driven polymorph but no substrate-induced polymorph
- Varying substrates: no influence on polymorph selection



Form 1 (100)



Form 2 (001)



### **ULB** Naproxen S-enantiomer



- 2-(6-Methoxy-2-naphthyl)-propionic acid
- Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug
- Chiral  $\rightarrow$  only S enantiomer









### S-Naproxen on SiOx



#### **Drop casting** Spin coating 100-Form1 10-1-Form1 100-Form1 300-Form 1 10-1-Form 200-Form 002-Form (a.u.) ntensity (a.u. chlorobenzene Intensity chlorobenzene dioxane dioxane tetrahydrofuran tetrahydrofuran ethanol ethanol 10 12 1 q<sub>z</sub> (nm<sup>-1</sup>) 8 10 14 16 18 6 10 12 16 4 6 8 14 18 Δ $q_{z} (nm^{-1})$

End-on

(100)

24

**FU** Graz

# **Indexation 2<sup>nd</sup> form (GIDInd)**





• <u>GIDInd:</u>

4 sets of in plane peaks 23 different peaks found  $\rightarrow$  monoclinic structure  $\rightarrow$  14 diff. unit cell found

→ Crystal structure prediction in process



### ULB Naproxen on various substrates

Most samples reveal Form 1 of naproxen **HOPG**: clear peaks representing (002)-orientation  $\rightarrow$  flat-on texture **Graphene**: flat on orientation & high mosaicity Carboxylic-acid: flat-on & end-on

2,0,0 0,1,0,0

10

12 14 16



**HOPG** 

6

4

2

0

2

4

6

8

q<sub>xv</sub> (nm<sup>-1</sup>)

#### Graphene



#### **Carboxylic-acid**





### **ULB** Conclusion naproxen

Lp &

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Form of naproxen: set of unit cells found
  → crystal structure missing
- Change in molecular orientation:
  end-on (silica) → flat-on (HOPG, Graphene)





# **ULB** General Conclusion

- Lead-phthalocyanine: substrate-induced polymorph
- Phenoxazine: kinetic-driven polymorph
  - $\rightarrow$  molecule-molecule interaction > substrate-molecule interaction
- Naproxen: 2<sup>nd</sup> polymorph found,

crystal structure solution is missing

 Substrates: may influence molecular orientation HOPG/graphene: flat-on (PbPc, naproxen)



Lead-phthalocyanine



phenoxazine





### ULB

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OS HE EXCELLENCE OF SCIENCE









### Molecular packing analysis

input: lattice constants from GIXD experiments





### **Conclusion lead-phthalocyanine**

• Substrate-induced polymorph confirmed

ULB

Similar orientation on different substrates
 → flat-on



- Epitaxy on graphene
  - $\rightarrow$  12 crystal alignments
- HOPG: graphene crystal orientations
  → 2D powder

#### Spatial distribution of (00-1) in real space



# **ULB** Surface energy



- Surface unfavourable condition
- Requires surface energy (tension)  $\gamma$
- OWRK:  $\gamma = \gamma^d + \gamma^p$
- $\gamma^d$ : dispersive component
- $\gamma^p$ : polar component
- Young equation:

 $\gamma_{SG} = \gamma_{SL} + \gamma_{LG} * \cos \theta_C$ 



Schematic intermolecular interaction at interfaces



Schematic derivation of the Young equation.



### ULB Surface free energies





