

Synthesis and characterization of polymers as HTMs for perovskite solar cells

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Among alternative energy sources, Perovskite Solar Cells (PSC), raising in efficiency from 3.2% to 22-23% in only few years,¹ are the new frontier of the photovoltaic research. The polymeric Hole Transport Materials (HTM) extract holes and protect perovskite from moisture degradation due to their superior sealant ability.² We prepared several P3HT and PTAA conductive polymers. P3HT structure was modulated in molecular weight (20 to 300 kDa) and regioregularity (78-100%), to search for correlations between structure and solar cell efficiency.³ The P3HT were prepared by different synthetic methods (oxidative,⁴ C-H activation⁵ and Grignard Methatesis⁶).

The PTAA were prepared by polymerization of dibromo-substituted linkers with different anilines, with a Pd catalyst bearing a NHC ligand,⁷ obtaining polymers with short to medium molecular weight. Upon characterization, the polymers showed a very good stability and the estimation of energy levels was compatible with the most common perovskites used in perovskite solar cells. Those HTMs were used in crystal engineering perovskite⁸ solar cells, reaching a photoconversion efficiency of 17% and 13.4% respectively, confirming their good potential as HTMs for PSCs.

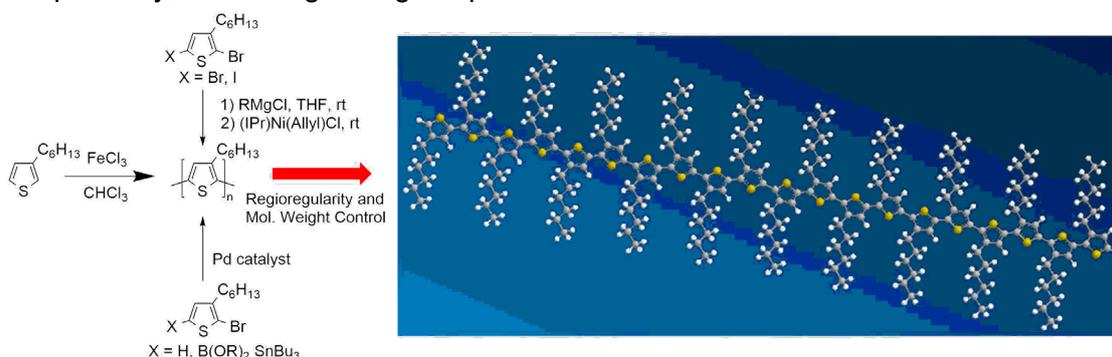


Figure 1: Different synthetic methods for P3HT.

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