# Assessing the Effects of Increasing Conjugation Length on Exciton Diffusion: From Small Molecules to the Polymeric Limit

Leonardo Evaristo de Sousa,<sup>1</sup> Laura Simonassi Raso de Paiva,<sup>2</sup> Demétrio Antônio da Silva Filho,<sup>2, 3, 4, a)</sup> Gjergji Sini,<sup>3</sup> and Pedro Henrique de Oliveira Neto<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1)</sup>Department of Energy Conversion and Storage, Technical University of Denmark, Anker Engelunds Vej 301, 2800 Kongens Lyngby, Denmark

<sup>2)</sup>Institute of Physics, University of Brasilia, 70919-970, Brasilia,

Brazil

<sup>3)</sup>Laboratoire de Physicochimie des Polymères et des Interfaces, EA 2528,

CY Cergy Paris Université, 5 mail Gay-Lussac, 95031, Cergy-Pontoise Cedex, France

<sup>4)</sup>Institute for Advanced Studies, CY Cergy Paris Université, 1 rue Descartes, 95000, Neuville-sur-Oise, France

(Dated: 5 July 2021)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a)</sup>Electronic mail: dasf@unb.br

#### I. ABSORPTION AND EMISSION SPECTRA

## A. Methods Comparison



FIG. 1. Comparison between experimental and simulated absorption spectra of bithiophene using different methods.



FIG. 2. Comparison between simulated absorption spectra of octothiophene using the nuclear ensemble method, the vertical gradient and Franck-Condon approximations.

### B. B3LYP Functional



FIG. 3. Differential emission rate for the thiophene oligomer series. Inset shows the same spectra shifted to the polymeric emission peak.



FIG. 4. Absorption cross section spectra for the p-phenylene vinylene oligomer series. Inset shows the same spectra shifted to the polymeric absorption peak.



FIG. 5. Differential emission rate for the p-phenylene vinylene oligomer series. Inset shows the same spectra shifted to the polymeric emission peak.

#### C. CAM-B3LYP Functional



FIG. 6. Absorption cross section spectra for the thiophene oligomer series. Inset shows the same spectra shifted to the polymeric absorption peak.



FIG. 7. Differential emission rate for the thiophene oligomer series. Inset shows the same spectra shifted to the polymeric emission peak.



FIG. 8. Absorption cross section spectra for the p-phenylene vinylene oligomer series. Inset shows the same spectra shifted to the polymeric absorption peak.



FIG. 9. Differential emission rate for the p-phenylene vinylene oligomer series. Inset shows the same spectra shifted to the polymeric emission peak.

	Functional	
Polymer	B3LYP	CAM-B3LYP
Oligothiophene Absorption	$0.19 \ \mathrm{eV}$	$0.34 \ \mathrm{eV}$
Oligothiophene Emission	0.21  eV	0.22  eV
OPV Absorption	0.20  eV	$0.43 \ \mathrm{eV}$
OPV Emission	0.16  eV	0.26  eV

TABLE I. Average standard deviation for absorption and emission spectra of both thiophene andOPV oligomer series.

#### **II. REORGANIZATION ENERGY**

### A. B3LYP



FIG. 10. Progression of reorganization energy as a function of the number of repeating units for the thiophene (red) and PPV (orange) oligomer series.

## B. CAM-B3LYP



FIG. 11. Progression of reorganization energy as a function of the number of repeating units for the thiophene (red) and PPV (orange) oligomer series.

III. EMISSION LIFETIMES, DIPOLE MOMENTS AND EXCITONIC COUPLINGS

#### A. CAM-B3LYP



FIG. 12. Radiative lifetimes as a function of repeating units for both oligomer series. Curves correspond to exponential fits to the data.



FIG. 13. Transition dipole moments from the  $S_0$  and  $S_1$  states as a function of the number of repeating units for the thiophene (a) and phenylene vinylene (b) oligomer series. Curves correspond to fits to the data.



FIG. 14. Exciton coupling for a) oligothiophenes and b) OPVs as a function of the inverse number of repeating units using the corrected point dipole approximation coupled to both a square root and exponential dependence for transition dipole moments.



FIG. 15. Absorption cross-section and differential emission rate for the thiophene polymeric limit obtained with B3LYP.



FIG. 16. Absorption cross-section and differential emission rate for the p-phenylene vinylene polymeric limit obtained with B3LYP.



FIG. 17. Absorption cross-section and differential emission rate for the thiophene polymeric limit obtained with CAM-B3LYP.



FIG. 18. Absorption cross-section and differential emission rate for the p-phenylene vinylene polymeric limit obtained with CAM-B3LYP.