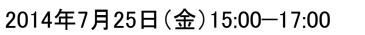
"Precise Engineering of Polymers for Organic Photovoltaics"

Professor Christine K. Luscombe (University of Washington, Seattle, USA)





(創成科学研究棟5階大会議室)

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 π -Conjugated semiconducting polymers are actively under development for use in light-weight, flexible, disposable organic light-emitting diodes, and thin-film transistors. A key application which is currently attracting a lot of interest for semiconducting polymers is their use in organic photovoltaic devices (OPVs). The main drive for developing OPVs is the lower cost associated with their manufacturing, because of the fact that organic semiconducting polymers can be solution processed. Poly(3-hexylthiophene) (P3HT) remains one of the most commonly used polymers in organic photovoltaics due to its desirable electronic properties. Our group has been studying and developing techniques to grow semiconducting polymers using a living polymerization method. This has allowed us to synthesize polymer architectures that we haven't been able to access till now including polythiophene brushes, starshaped P3HT, as well as hyperbranched P3HT. It also allows us to accurately control the molecular weights of P3HT and produce materials with a narrow molecular weight distribution. In this talk, I will talk about the synthetic strategies used, and the thin film morphologies these polymer architectures provide.

問合せ先: 触媒化学研究センター・中野 環(tamaki.nakano@cat.hokudai.ac.jp・011-706-9155)

共催:高分子学会北海道支部 協賛:日本化学会北海道支部・北海道大学フロンティア化学教育研究センター

348th Catalysis Research Center (CRC) Colloquium

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