

International Seminar on  
"Towards Smart Sustainable Cities - Integrated Approaches"

# Organic Photovoltaics Research in Solar Energy Laboratory

of the Center for Energy and Advanced Materials Science

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Astana, Kazakhstan, 15-16 June, 2017

# OPV problems vs solutions

- **Relatively low PCE**
- **Stability issues and etc.**

VS

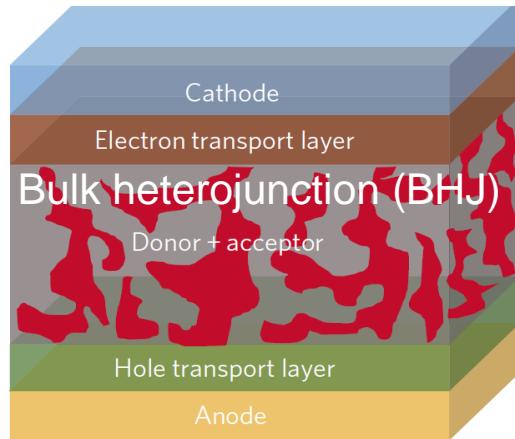
- **New material synthesis (absorption increase)**
- **Device preparation and characterization (optimal structure and performance)**
- **Modeling (testing assumptions and hypotheses against measurements)**

# Projects

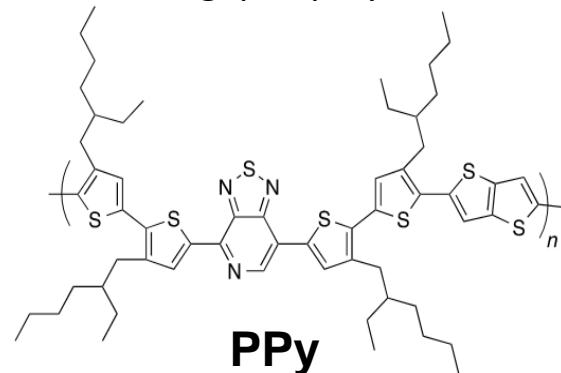
- Bulk heterojunction solar cells based on low-bandgap organic semiconductors and soluble fullerene derivatives
- Study of OSC morphology using different microscopy techniques
- Stationary and dynamic electrical characteristics of organic solar cells: simulations and experiments
- DSSC on the basis of ZnO nanoparticles

# BHJ OSC based on new polymers

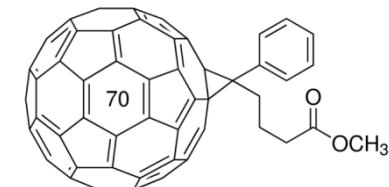
## ➤ Bulk heterojunction (BHJ) OSC



### Low band gap copolymers

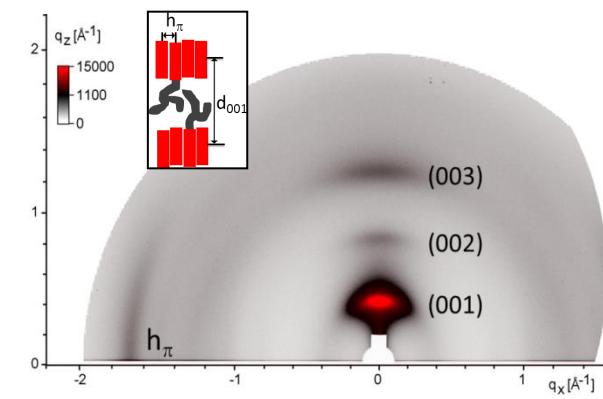
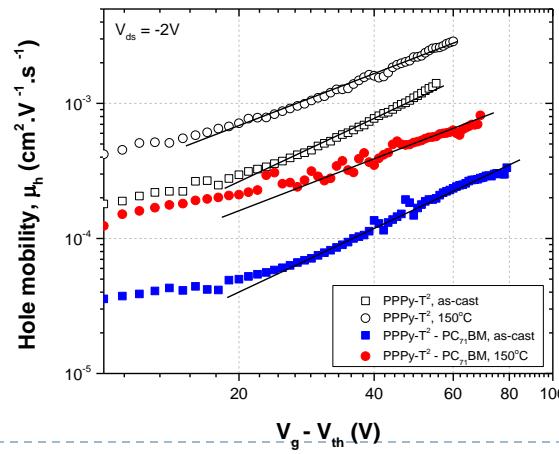
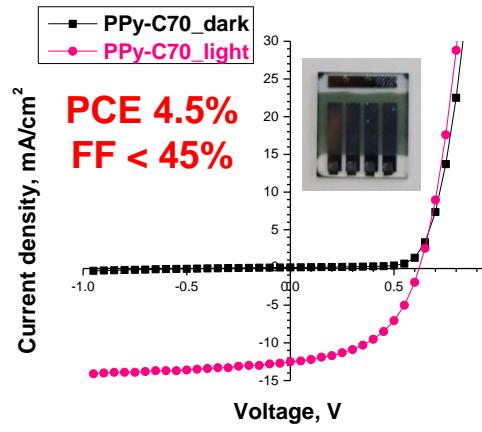


### [6,6]-Phenyl C<sub>71</sub> butyric acid methyl ester



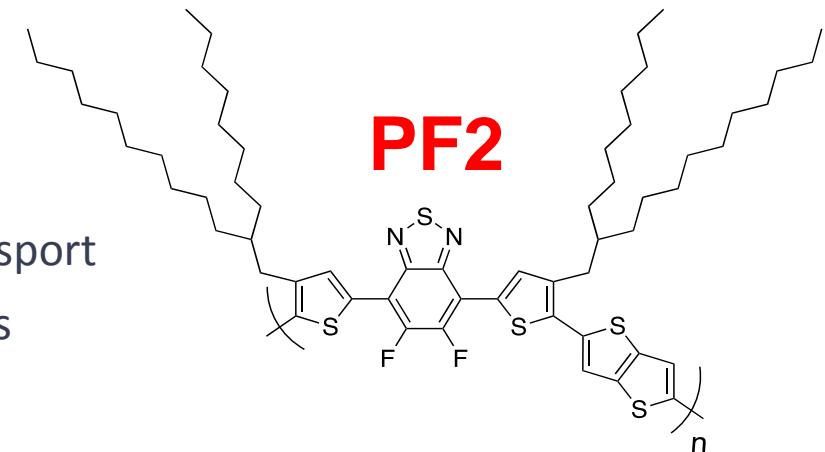
O.A. Ibraikulov et al., Org. Electron., 2015,  
23, 171-178.

## ➤ Characterization

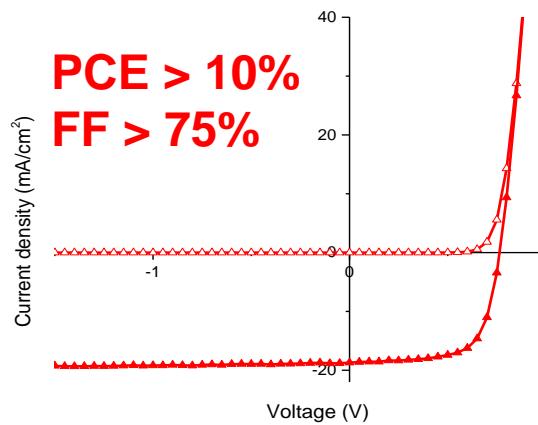


# BHJ OSC based on new polymers

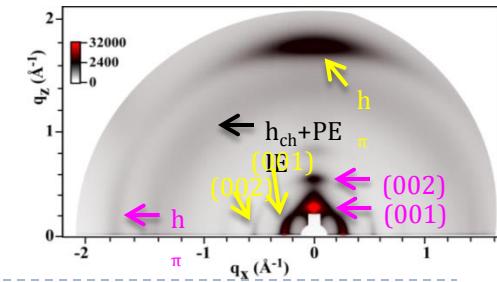
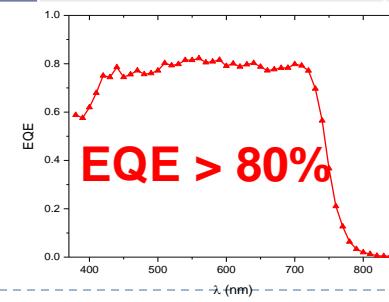
- Fluorination of polymer backbones
  - Optimized frontier molecular orbital (FMO) energy levels with low band-gaps
  - Excellent morphology that allows good transport
  - Very pure domains, low recombination rates



## ➤ Characterization

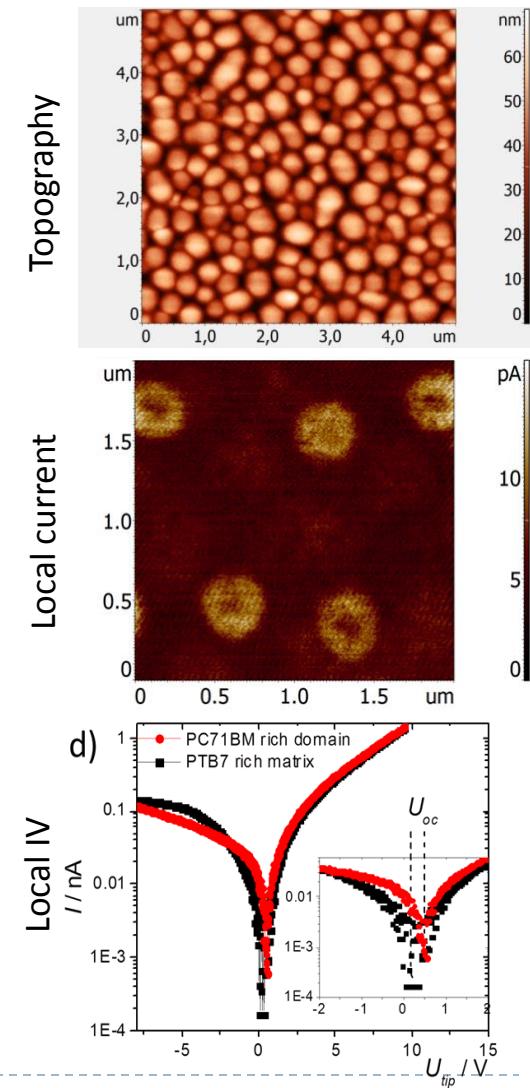


	Pure polymer films		BHJ blends
	$\mu_{\text{OFET}}$ (cm <sup>2</sup> /Vs)	$\mu_{\text{SCLC}}$ (cm <sup>2</sup> /Vs)	$\mu_{\text{SCLC}}$ (cm <sup>2</sup> /Vs)
PF2	$(1.0 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-2}$	$(9.0 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{-3}$	$(9.5 \pm 1.2) \times 10^{-3}$



# Characterization: Microscopy

- **Scanning Probe Microscopy (SPM)**
  - Atomic force microscopy (AFM)
  - Scanning Tunneling Microscopy (STM)
  - Scanning Near-Field Optical Microscopy (SNOM)
- **Electron microscopy**
  - Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)
  - Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)
  - Dual beam system (FIB & SEM)
- **Raman and Tip Enhanced Raman Microscopy**

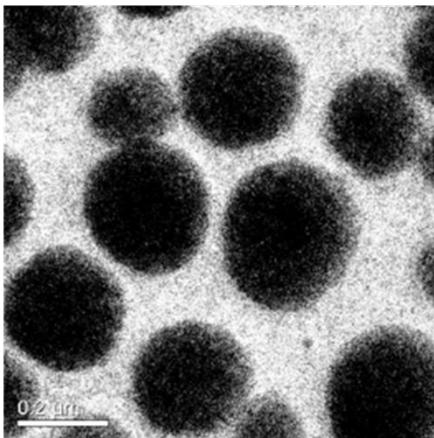


# Characterization: Microscopy

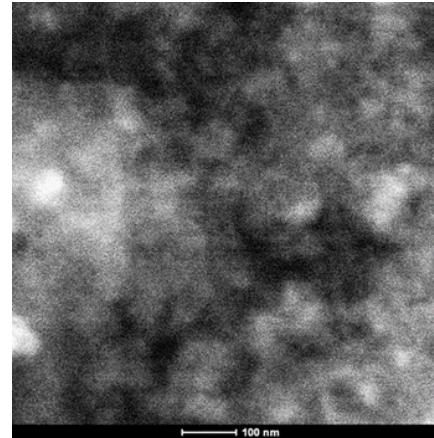
## ➤ Energy Filtered Transmission Electron Microscopy (EFTEM)

Sulfur maps (with DIO)

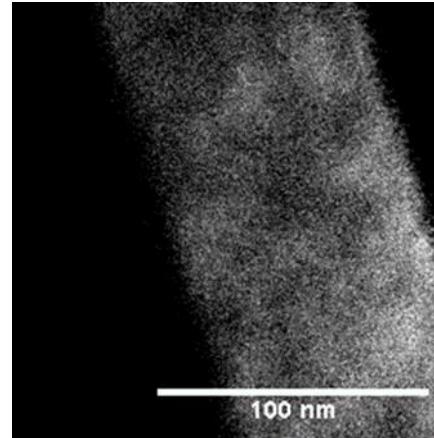
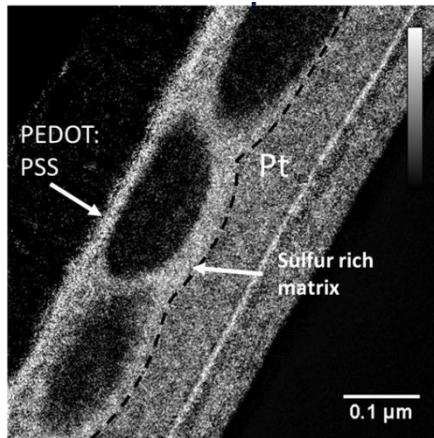
Top view



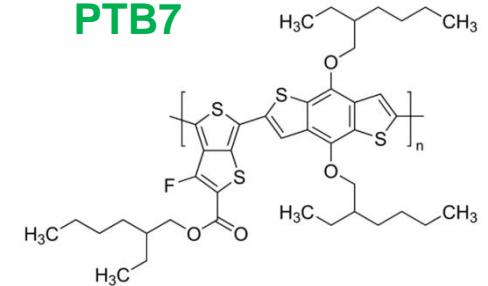
Carbon maps (no DIO)



Cross-section



**PTB7**

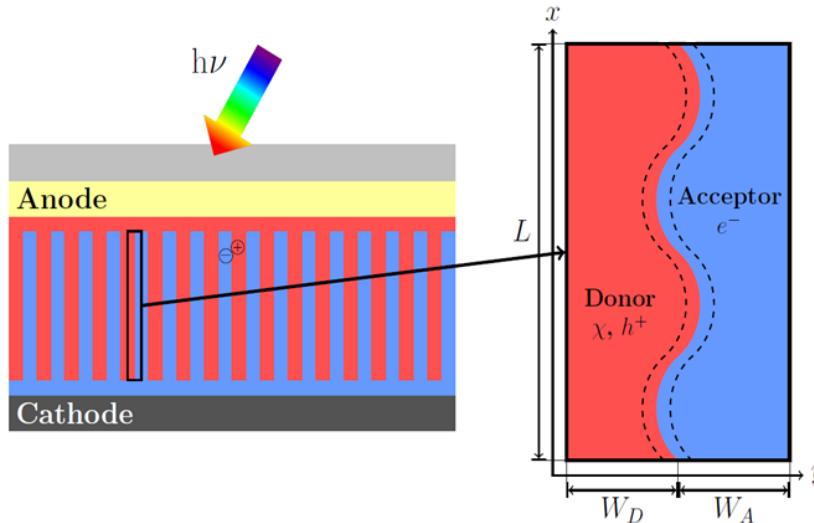


Poly{4,8-bis[(2-ethylhexyl)oxy]benzo[1,2-*b*:4,5-*b'*]dithiophene-2,6-diyl}{3-fluoro-2-[(2-ethylhexyl)carbonyl]thieno[3,4-*b*]thiophenediyl})

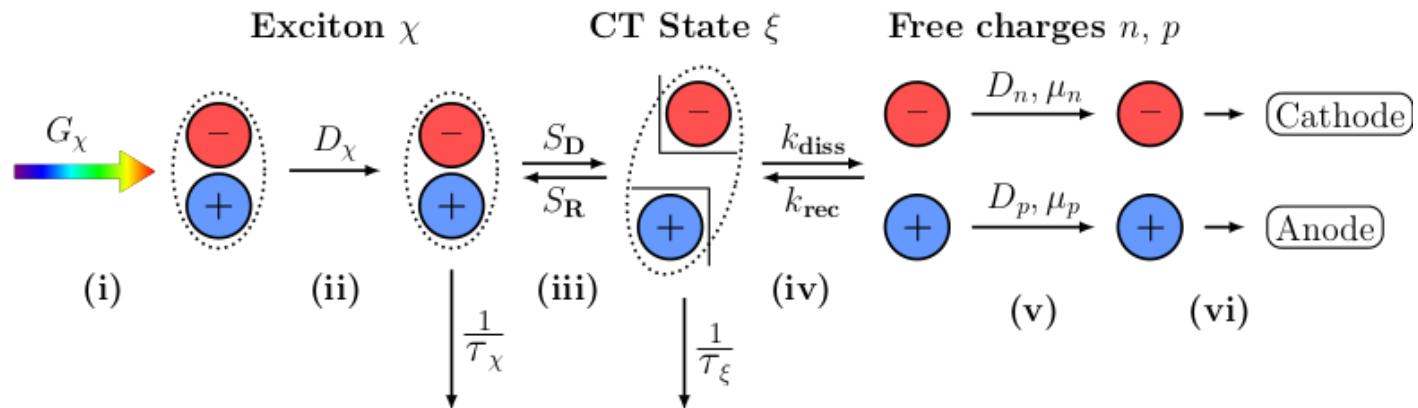


# Simulation: 2D drift-diffusion model

## ➤ Model geometry

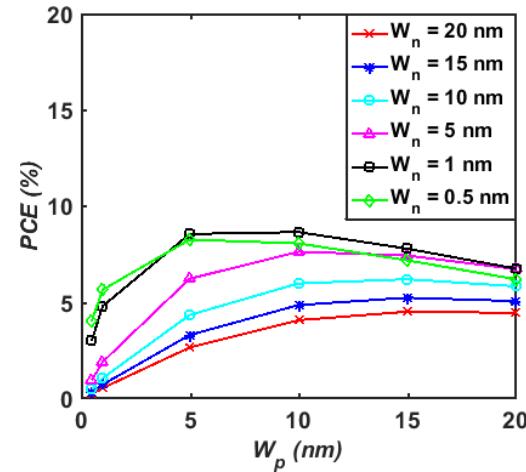
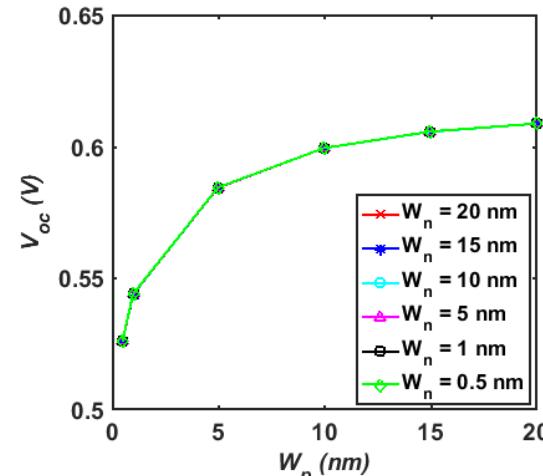
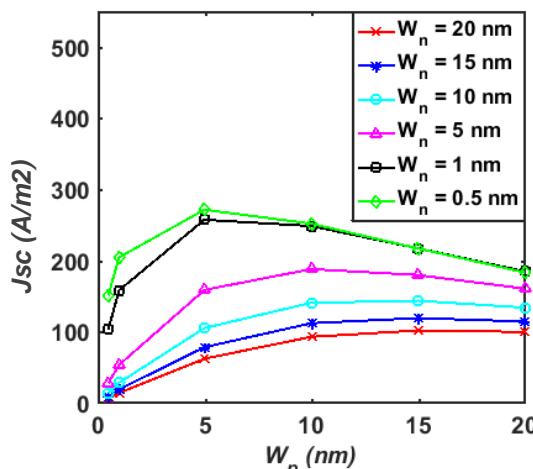


## ➤ Model physics

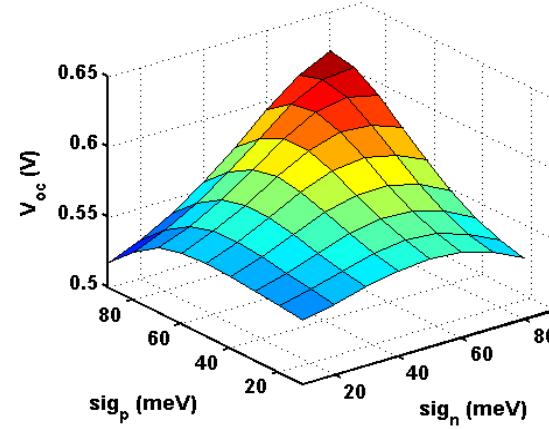
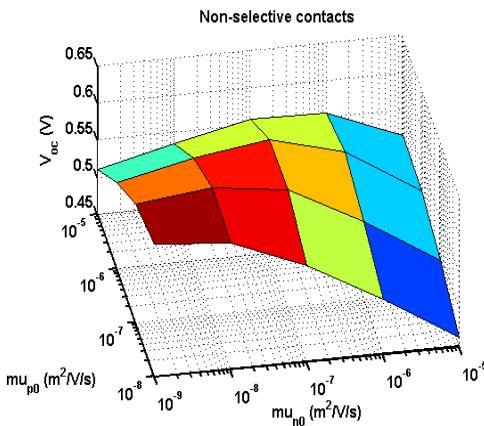


# Simulation: 2D drift-diffusion model

## ➤ Morphology variation (domain size)

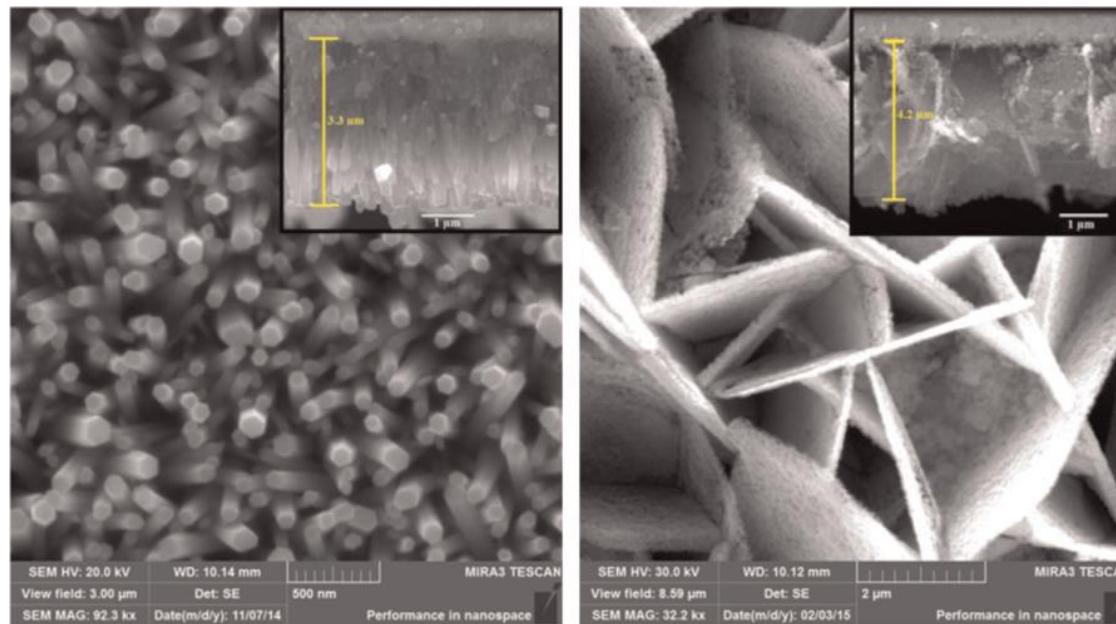


## ➤ Mobility and energetic disorder



# DSSC: ZnO nanostructures

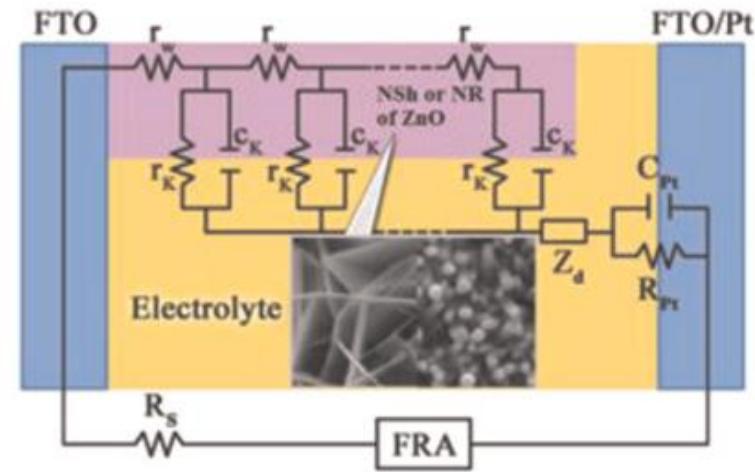
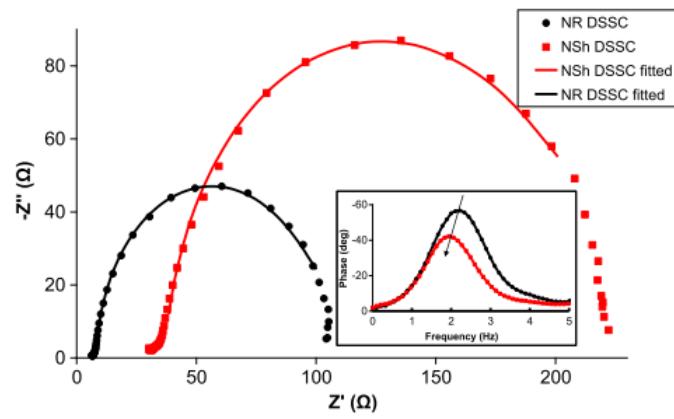
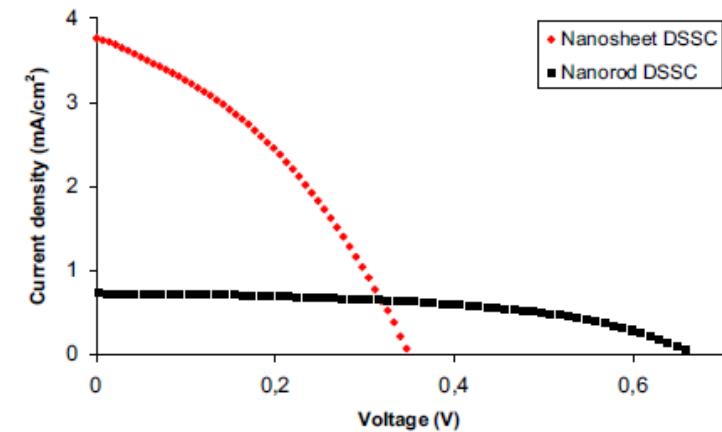
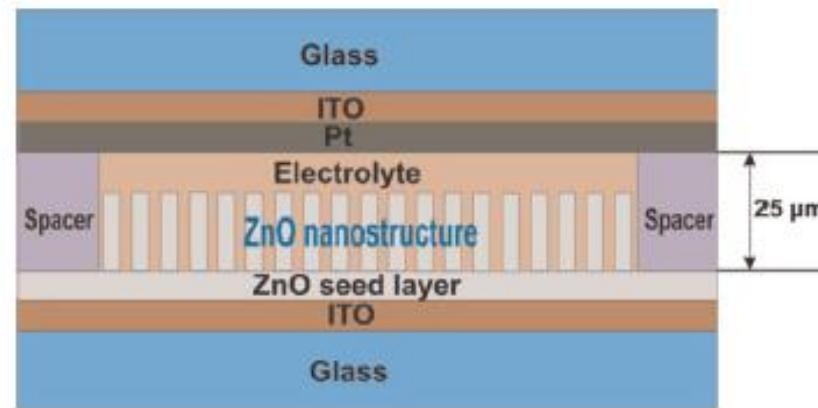
- Two different ZnO nanostructures synthesis



- Chemical and electrochemical deposition
- Structural and optical characterization: more defect states in sheet morphology

# DSSC: ZnO nanostructures

## ➤ DSSC fabrication and characterization



# Thank you for attention!

## ➤ Partners



## ➤ Contacts:

- Center for Energy and Advanced Materials Science, NLA, Kazakhstan
- <https://nla.nu.edu.kz/en/ceams/rireesefe/laboratory-of-solar-energy>
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