Effects of Doping in Photovoltaic Organic Semiconductor Films

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Chapter 1:

General Introduction

1.1. Background

Impurity doping is an indispensable technique for present inorganic semiconductor devices.¹⁾ With this technique the position of the Fermi level and the conduction type of the semiconductor can be controlled. Semiconductors that have higher hole than electron concentration are described as *p*-type semiconductors. Conversely, semiconductors which have higher electron concentration are described as *n*-type semiconductors. By bringing *p*- and *n*-type semiconductors into contact with each other various electronic devices can be created. Solar cells, which generate electrical power, operate by separating the carriers in a pn-junction.²⁻⁶⁾ Light emitting diodes, which rely on carrier recombination in a *pn*-junction, can emit light of various wavelengths depending on the type of semiconductor.⁷⁻⁹⁾ Bipolar field-effect transistors used as electronic switches consist of *npn* or *pnp* junctions.²⁾

The fabrication techniques for these devices were well established during the 20th century. These devices are widely prevalent and are an essential part of our everyday lives. Thus, impurity doping currently plays a significant role in the electronics industry.

On the other hand, organic electronic devices, i.e., devices consisting of organic semiconductors, have attracted much attention during the 21st century. Compared to inorganic semiconductors, organic semiconductors have some advantages in that the device fabrication is easy, the production costs low, and they are flexible, lightweight and easy to design. Since Inokuchi et al. reported on the high conductivity of the perylene-bromine complex in 1954^{10} , studies on organic semiconductor have advanced. However, organic semiconductors have fallen far behind inorganic semiconductors in terms of device applications. In groundbreaking work in the late 1980s, Tang reported on organic solar cells (OSCs)¹¹⁾ and organic light emitting diodes (OLEDs).¹²⁾ While the practical use of OLEDs for display and lighting panels has been extensive, OSCs are still in the research phase. As is the case for inorganic semiconductors, further development of organic electronics requires precise *pn*-control in organic semiconductors. In particular, *pn*-control in OSCs has the potential to obtain high photo-conversion efficiencies comparable to inorganic solar cells. Thus, the author has focused on the effects of doping in organic semiconductors for solar cell application.

1.2. Impurity Doping

1.2.1. Doping of Inorganic Semiconductors

Impurity doping of inorganic semiconductors is a well-established technique. Impurities are introduced into the lattice of an inorganic semiconductor by diffusion or ion implantation. The mechanisms for doping Si are shown in Fig. 1.1. Doping Si, which has four valence electrons, with boron (B), which has three valence electrons, induces the B atom to accept an electron from Si lattice creating a hole that orbits the ionized acceptor (B⁻) via a weak Coulomb attraction, which can dissociate easily and move freely due to the thermal energy at room temperature (Fig. 1.1(a)). Thus, acceptor doping increases the hole concentration and changes the semiconductor to p-type. Donor doping can be described similarly (Fig. 1.1(b)). Doping with phosphorus (P), which has five valence electrons, gives an excess electron that is not required for bonding. This excess electron orbits the ionized donor (P^+), but can dissociate easily and move freely. Thus, donor doping increases the electron concentration and changes the semiconductor to *n*-type. This *pn*-control gives flexibility in designing the energy structure of various electronics devices.



Fig. 1.1 Schematic illustrations of (a) *p*-type and (b) *n*-type silicon. The gray, blue and red circles indicate silicon atoms, a negatively charged boron atom and a positively charged phosphorus atom, respectively.

1.2.2. Doping of Organic Semiconductors

The principle of doping organic semiconductors is shown in Fig. 1.2. The highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) of the donor dopant needs to be located at a significantly shallow position, so that the donor dopants can supply electrons to the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) of the host material. In contrast, the

LUMO of the acceptor dopant needs to be located at a deep position, so that the acceptor dopants can extract an electron from the HOMO of the host material. Thus, charge transfer between the host semiconductor and the dopant is induced by the difference in energy levels between them.

The *pn*-control of C_{60} film based on charge transfer has been reported.¹³⁻¹⁵ Fig. 1.3 shows an energy diagram of a doped C_{60} film. The Fermi level (E_F) of the C_{60} film doped with Cs_2CO_3 has shifted toward the LUMO and reached 4.40 eV compared to 4.60 eV for the undoped film, which indicates that the C_{60} has become *n*-type. On the other hand, E_F in the C_{60} film doped with MoO₃ has shifted toward the HOMO and reached 5.88 eV, indicating that the C_{60} has become *p*-type. While C_{60} is generally used as *n*-type material, doping can change the conduction type from *n*- to *p*-type. Control of the conduction type offers more flexibility in designing the energy band structure. On the other hand, metal-free phthalocyanine (H₂Pc) is a typical *p*-type material. Whether or not it is possible to change the conduction type of H₂Pc is a fascinating question. Thus, the author examined the doping of H₂Pc and reports on the results in this thesis (see chapter 3).



Fig. 1.2 Schematic diagrams of *n*-type (left) and *p*-type (right) doping of organic semiconductors.



Fig. 1.3 Energy diagram of doped C_{60} . The black, red and blue lines indicate the energy levels of E_F for non-doped, MoO₃-doped, and Cs₂CO₃-doped films, respectively. The work functions of Cs₂CO₃ and MoO₃ are also shown. The doping concentration is 3,000 ppm.

Host organic semiconductors and dopants form charge-transfer (CT) complexes. Kubo et al. described the formation of some CT complexes, i.e., C_{60}^+ ---MoO₃⁻¹³⁾ and C_{60}^- ---Cs₂CO₃^{+14,15)} (Fig. 1.4). MoO₃ can extract an electron from the valence band of C_{60} owing to its extremely high work function. In contrast, Cs₂CO₃ can donate an electron to the conduction band of C_{60} owing to its low work function. A film of C_{60} with mixed dopants changed color and showed CT absorption. Unlike the doping of inorganic semiconductors, dopants are not incorporated into the lattice of the host semiconductor.



Fig. 1.4 Mechanisms of (a) MoO_3 and (b) Cs_2CO_3 doping of C_{60} .

1.2.3. Dopants for Organic Semiconductors

Fig. 1.5 summarizes the various donor and acceptor dopants for organic semiconductors. The introduction of halogen gases such as bromine¹⁶⁾ and iodine^{17,18)} into organic semiconductors for *p*-type doping has been performed. However, these small molecule gases diffuse easily in organic semiconductors, making precise control of the doping by halogen gases quite difficult. So, larger molecules are desirable to prevent diffusion. Some acceptor molecules have been reported. In 1960, Kearns et al. reported an increase by a factor of 10^7 of the dark conductivity in metal-free phthalocyanine by the addition of ortho-chloranil.¹⁹⁾ Maitrot et al. reported a drastic increase in conductivity doping with by *p*-type 2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone (DDQ) and tetracyanoquinodimethane (TCNQ).²⁰⁾ Schottky diode fabrication using DDQ doped oligothiophene has also been reported.²¹⁾ The Leo group have done systematic studies using

tetrafluoro-tetracyano-quinodimethane (F₄-TCNQ) for OSCs and OLEDs.^{22,23)} Metal oxides, i.e., molybdenum oxide $(MoO_3)^{13,14,24,25)}$ and vanadium oxide (V_2O_5) ,²⁶ which have been used as hole injection layers for OLEDs are used as acceptor dopants. Antimony pentachloride (SbCl₅) and iron (III) chloride (FeCl₃)²⁷⁾ also have strong electron acceptability attributed to their high work function.

On the other hand, *n*-type doping is more difficult because of the instability of donor dopants with respect to oxygen. Exposure to oxygen must be prevented in order to perform *n*-type doping since oxygen works as an acceptor. Conventionally, alkali metals such as sodium, potassium, lithium, cesium, or strontium have been used.²⁸⁻³⁰⁾ However, undesirable diffusion into organic films complicates precise fabrication of devices. Moreover, metal atoms work as recombination centers, which can have a considerable detrimental impact on the device characteristics. Doping with electron-donating organic molecules reported. has also been Bis(ethylenedithio)-tetrathiafulvalene (BEDT-TTF) doping of naphthalenetetracarboxylic dianhydride (NTCDA) shows an increase in conductivity and a negative E_F shift.³¹⁾ A UPS study of n-type doping with tetrathianaphthacene (TTN) has been reported.³²⁾ Furthermore, various other acceptor dopants such as cationic salts³³⁻³⁶⁾, and transition metal complexes including Ru³⁷⁾, Co^{38,39)}, Cr⁴⁰⁾, and $W^{40-42)}$ have also been reported. Air-stable cesium carbonate (Cs₂CO₃),^{15,43-45)} which is often used as an electron extracting layer,⁴⁶⁾ is one of the most appealing acceptor dopants.

In this thesis, the author used MoO_3 , $FeCl_3$ and Cs_2CO_3 because of their strong electron acceptor and donor qualities and their ease of handling.



Fig. 1.5 (a) Acceptor and (b) donor dopants for organic semiconductors.



1.3. Carrier Concentration in Doped Semiconductors

Fig. 1.6 Schematic illustrations of space charge distributions (upper) and energy band structures (bottom) in the case of (a) high and (b) low doping concentrations. The red shaded parts indicate depletion regions.

Understanding the energy structure of doped organic semiconductors is indispensable for designing devices. In particular, the depletion layer width (W_{dep}) is an important factor. Schematic illustrations of the space charge distributions and energy band structures in *pn*-junctions are shown in Fig. 1.6. With the *p*- and *n*-layers in contact, holes in the *p*-layer diffuse into the *n*-layer due to the hole density gradient. Conversely, electrons in the *n*-layer diffuse into the p-layer. A depletion layer is formed by recombination of the diffused holes and electrons at the interface between the *p*- and *n*-layers. W_{dep} is determined by the carrier concentration. In the case of high doping concentration, the change in potential at the *pn*-junction is large due to the combination of a large number of electrons and holes (Fig.1.6(a)). The large electric field formed in a narrow region limits the spread of W_{dep} . Conversely, W_{dep} spreads widely in the case of low carrier concentration (Fig.1.6(b)). That is, as the doping concentration increases, W_{dep} becomes narrower. Thus, there is a close relationship between W_{dep} and carrier concentration. The relationship can be found using Poisson's equation.²⁾ The electrostatic potential (Ψ) is obtained from Poisson's equation,

$$\frac{d^2\Psi}{dx^2} \equiv -\frac{dE}{dx} = -\frac{\rho_s}{\epsilon\epsilon_0} = -\frac{e}{\epsilon\epsilon_0}(N_D - N_A + p - n)$$

where, ρ_s , ϵ , ϵ_0 , N_D , N_A , p and n are the resistivity and relative permittivity of the semiconductor, the permittivity in vacuum, and the donor, acceptor, free hole and free electron concentrations, respectively.

Since there are no carriers in the depletion region, i.e., p=n=0, this equation reduces to

$$\frac{d^2\Psi}{dx^2} = \frac{e}{\epsilon\epsilon_0} (N_D - N_A)$$
(1.2)

The space charge distribution for an abrupt junction is shown in Fig. 1.7. Poisson's equation can be simply expressed as,

$$\frac{d^{2}\Psi}{dx^{2}} = \frac{eN_{A}}{\epsilon\epsilon_{0}} \qquad (-x_{p} \le x < 0)$$

$$\frac{d^{2}\Psi}{dx^{2}} = \frac{eN_{D}}{\epsilon\epsilon_{0}} \qquad (0 < x \le x_{n}) \qquad (1.3)$$

Since the space charge of whole semiconductor is neutral, the negative charge in the *p*-region must equal the positive charge in the *n*-region. Thus,

$$N_A x_p = N_D x_n \tag{1.4}$$

where, x_p and x_n are the widths of the depletion layer in the *p*- and *n*-regions, respectively.

The electric field intensity is obtained by integration of Eq. (1.3),

$$E(x) = \frac{d\Psi}{dx} = \frac{eN_A(x + x_p)}{\epsilon\epsilon_0} \qquad (-x_p \le x < 0)$$
$$E(x) = \frac{eN_D(x - x_n)}{\epsilon\epsilon_0} \qquad (0 < x \le x_n) \qquad (1.5)$$

Integration of the electric field given by Eq (1.5) gives the built-in potential (V_{bi}). Thus, the area of the triangle in Fig. 1.7(b) indicates V_{bi} .

$$V(x) = -\frac{eN_D}{2\epsilon\epsilon_0}x_p^2 + \frac{eN_D}{\epsilon\epsilon_0}x_n^2 = \frac{1}{2}E_mW_{dep}$$
(1.6)



Fig. 1.7 (a) Space charge distribution in the depletion region in thermal equilibrium. (b) Electric field distribution of a pn-junction. The area of the red shaded triangle corresponds to V_{bi}.

(1.8)

From Eq. (1.4) and (1.6), W_{dep} is obtained as a function of V_{bi} .

$$W_{dep} = \sqrt{\frac{2\epsilon\epsilon_0}{e} \left(\frac{N_A + N_D}{N_A N_D}\right)} V_{bi}$$
(1.7)

A junction in which the carrier concentration on one side is much higher than that on the other is called a one-sided abrupt junction. In the case of a heavily-concentrated p/low-concentrated n (p^+n) junction, that is, N_A>>N_D, W_{dep} in the p-region is extremely narrow. Thus, W_{dep} in the *n*-region can simply be expressed as follows.

$$W_{dep} \cong x_n = \sqrt{\frac{2\varepsilon\varepsilon_0 V_{bi}}{eN_D}}$$
(1.8)

Conversely, W_{dep} in the *p*-region in the case of an n^+p junction is expressed as

$$W_{dep} \cong x_p = \sqrt{\frac{2\epsilon\epsilon_0 V_{bi}}{eN_A}}$$
 (1.9)

 W_{dep} of Schottky junctions can also be represented by Eqs. (1.8) and (1.9). Since W_{dep} and V_{bi} can be determined by band-mapping using a Kelvin probe, the carrier concentration can be calculated using these equations.

1.4. Kelvin Probe Measurement

1.4.1. Principle of Kelvin Vibrating Capacitor Method

The E_F in organic semiconductor films was determined using a Kelvin probe.⁴⁷⁻⁵⁵⁾ Figure 1.8 shows the mechanism of the Kelvin vibrating capacitor method. An organic semiconductor film facing a standard gold plate probe forms a capacitor due to the difference in work function. Varying the distance between them by vibrating the gold plate generates an alternating current (AC). The voltage at which the AC is cancelled corresponds to the contact potential difference (CPD). The E_F of the sample films can be determined from the difference in CPD between the sample and a standard gold plate, the work function of which has been measured by atmospheric photoelectron spectroscopy.



Fig. 1.8. the mechanism of Kelvin vibrating capacitor method

Studies on the energy structure of organic semiconductors have been performed not only by using a Kelvin probe but also by ultra-violet photoelectron spectroscopy (UPS), X-ray photoemission spectroscopy (XPS) and inverse photoelectron spectroscopy (IPES).⁵⁶⁻⁶⁶⁾ Using these measurements to understand the energy structure is crucial for designing devices and improving the photovoltaic characteristics.

1.4.2. Determination of Carrier Concentration

Band-mapping was performed by ascertaining the film thickness-dependence of the Fermi level measurements.45,67,68) Figure 1.9 shows the principle of band-mapping of doped organic semiconductors. When a doped organic semiconductor is in contact with an indium tin oxide (ITO) electrode, their E_Fs are aligned. Accordingly, the vacuum level (E_{VAC}) is bent and the value of the work function, which is defined as the difference between E_{VAC} and E_F (Fig. 1.9, red double-headed arrows), changes with the thickness of the film. Thus, the variation in band-bending with the thickness of the doped organic semiconductor film can be directly mapped by measuring the work function with a Kelvin probe. The band-bending gives the depletion layer width (W_{dep}) and the built-in potential (V_{bi}) . The carrier concentration (N) can be calculated using Eqs. (1.8) and (1.9). Furthermore, the doping efficiency, i.e., the ratio of the number of generated carriers to the amount of doped impurity can be determined.



Fig. 1.9 Principle of energy band mapping of *n*-type (left) and *p*-type (right) Schottky junctions. CB and VB denote the conduction and valence bands, respectively.

1.5. Donor/Acceptor Sensitization

Organic solar cells have been substantially developed in the last decade.⁶⁹⁻⁷¹⁾ Since the pioneering work of Tang¹¹⁾ in 1986, the photo-conversion efficiency of organic solar cells has gradually increased up to 12%,⁷²⁾ which is comparable to amorphous silicon. Donor (D)/Acceptor (A) sensitization has been crucial for this development. In order to obtain a photocurrent, the following process is a fundamental requirement; excitons generated by the absorption of light dissociate into free electrons and holes, which then move to the electrodes by carrier transport. That is, the efficient dissociation of excitons is absolutely vital for generating large photocurrents. However, it is difficult to dissociate excitons in a single organic semiconductor due to the strong attractive forces. The force acting on the positive and negative charges of the exciton (F) are represented by Coulomb's Law (Eq. (1.10)),

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon\varepsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \tag{1.10}$$

where ε , ε_0 , r, and q are the relative dielectric constant, the dielectric constant in a vacuum, the distance between the charges, and the magnitudes of the charges, respectively. Inorganic semiconductors have relatively large ε (>10). Thus, weakly bound Wannier excitons are formed, which can easily separate into free carriers (Fig. On the other hand, organic semiconductors have relatively small 1.10 (left)). ε (~4).^{73,74} Thus, strongly bound Frenkel excitons are formed, which cannot separate into free carriers (Fig. 1.10 (right)). In order to solve this problem, a device structure in which two organic semiconductor materials are in contact is required for OSCs. Electrons excited by light irradiation of a single molecule film relax before dissociation (Fig. 1.11(a)). On the other hand, a combination of a donor molecule (D) and an acceptor molecule (A) can separate the positive and negative charges to the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) of D and the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) of A, respectively (Fig. 1.11(b)). The separated charges form a CT exciton which can dissociate easily. Thus, this D/A system is essential if a large photocurrent is to be obtained.



Fig. 1.10 Schematic illustrations of (a) Wannier exciton generated in Si. (b) Frenkel exciton generated in C_{60} .



Fig. 1.11 Schematic energy diagrams and models of photo-generated excitons in (a) single organic semiconductor and (b) D/A system.



Fig. 1.12. Schematic illustration of co-deposited film.

In order to dissociate all the excitons, a co-deposited film, i.e., a mixed film with donor and acceptor molecules such that there are D/A interfaces throughout the film, is necessary, (Fig. 1.12).⁷⁵⁻⁷⁷⁾ In order to generate a large number of free carriers the total area of the D/A interfaces must be large. Furthermore, a thick film is needed in order to absorb all of the incoming light. However, thick organic semiconductor films generally have extremely high resistance, so, reducing the resistance by doping is necessary. Doping co-deposited films is a new approach. Only a few studies on doping to photoactive layer have been reported. Ishiyama et al. successfully performed the formation of *pn*-homojunctions in a co-deposited film consisting of C_{60} and $H_2Pc.^{79)}$ Doping co-deposited film consisting of C₆₀ and H₂Pc.⁷⁹⁾ Doping co-deposited films has the potential for realizing high efficiency photovoltaic cells. Thus, the author investigated the effects of doping on co-deposited films (see Chapter 6).

1.6. Purpose of This Thesis

Impurity doping to control the *pn*-junction characteristics is vital in order to improve the photoconversion efficiency in organic solar cells as well as in inorganic solar cells. While *pn*-control of the typical inherently *n*-type C_{60} has been reported previously, it hasn't been shown whether or not the same control can be achieved in the typical inherently *p*-type metal-free phthalocyanine (H₂Pc) and hole transport materials (HTMs). The author has attempted to confirm whether or not this *pn*-control can be applied to any organic semiconductor in order to design high-efficiency organic solar cells. Thus, an investigation of the effects of doping on H₂Pc and HTMs was performed.

Moreover, precise device design requires a quantitative evaluation of the carrier concentration in doped organic semiconductors. However, correlation between the carrier concentration and the doping concentration hasn't so far been clarified. In particular, there have scarcely been any reports of studies on the doping of co-deposited films with photoactive D/A interfaces. The author believes that doping of co-deposited films is a key issue for the development of organic solar cells. Thus, in this thesis, the author has attempted to quantify the carrier concentration in doped single and co-deposited organic semiconductor films.

1.7. Overview of This Thesis

The effects of doping on typical single semiconductors are clarified.

In chapter 3, control of the conduction type and the formation of *pn*-homojunctions in single H₂Pc films by intentionally doping with cesium carbonate (Cs_2CO_3) and MoO₃ is described, even though H₂Pc is conventionally regarded as being inherently *p*-type.

In chapter 4, observations showing improvements made in the photovoltaic characteristics by p-type doping of hole-transport materials (HTMs), which offer high open-circuit voltages, are reported. Observation of strong charge transfer (CT) absorption by heavily MoO₃ doped HTMs revealed the formation of CT complexes. MoO₃-doping of HTMs offered the formation of built-in potentials and a decrease in resistance.

Evaluation of the carrier concentration and energy band structure of doped organic semiconductors is absolutely necessary for precise device fabrication. Thus, carrier concentration of single and co-deposited films was investigated.

In chapter 5, band-mapping of doped C_{60} is demonstrated using a Kelvin probe. The carrier concentrations in C_{60} films doped with Cs_2CO_3 and MoO_3 were precisely determined. An ionization efficiency of 10% is suggested, which is significantly less than that for Si. The CT complex formed, i.e., $Cs_2CO_3^+$ – C_{60} , is essentially the same as for the CT exciton. It is assumed that this low ionization efficiency is due to the strong attractive force between the small electron orbital and the positively ionized donor.

In chapter 6, the ionization sensitization of the dopants is revealed using measurements of the carrier concentration in a co-deposited film. $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ co-deposited films show a significantly higher ionization efficiency of 97%, which is

comparable to doped silicon. Ionization sensitization was observed with both p- and n-type doping. A charge separation superlattice model that gives a reasonable explanation of this phenomenon is proposed. Charge separation in a co-deposited film accelerates the liberation of the carriers from the impurity levels. The ionization sensitization is a new knowledge which gives meaning to doping of co-deposited films, and is a unique characteristic of organic semiconductors.

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Chapter 2:

Experimental Equipment and Methods

2.1. Purification of Organic Semiconductors

 C_{60} (Frontier Carbon Co., Ltd., nanom purple TL), C_{70} (Frontier Carbon Co., Ltd., nanom orange STH), metal-free phthalocyanine (H₂Pc) (Dainippon Ink & Chemicals, Inc., Fastogen Blue EP-101), and *N*,*N*'-dimethyl-3,4,9,10-perylene tetracarboxylic diimide (Me-PTC) were purified to 7N (99.99999%) purity by temperature gradient sublimation in a quartz furnace comprising three sections at different temperatures (Fig. 2.1).^{1,2)} Crude samples of the organic semiconductors, each weighing 4g, were placed in the high temperature section, and highly purified millimeter-scale single crystals were grown by sublimation in the middle temperature section under N₂ flow after pre-heating. (Fig. 2.2). Impurities from the crude sample were expelled to the low temperature section. In order to obtain highly purified single crystals, the proper conditions with respect to each material are required. The detailed sublimation conditions are shown in Table 2.1. The hole transport material and donor dopant, cesium carbonate (Cs₂CO₃; Aldrich, 99.995%), and the acceptor dopants, molybdenum trioxide (MoO₃; Alfa Aeser, 99.9995%) and iron (III) chloride (FeCl₃; Aldrich, 99.99%), were used without further purification.



Fig. 2.1 Quartz furnace for growing highly purified single crystals of organic semiconductor.



Fig. 2.2 Purified single crystals of organic semiconductors and their chemical structures.

	Т	°emperature / °	С	N ₂ flow Pressure	Heating
	Low	Middle	High	/ atm	Time / h
Pre-heating	150	150	150	Under vacuum	1
C ₆₀	310	580	745	1	36
C ₇₀	365	635	800	1	36
H ₂ Pc	270	290	480	0.1	5
Me-PTC	270	300	500	0.1	5

Table 2.1 Sublimation conditions for the organic semiconductors

2.2. Experimental Environment

The semiconductors were evaporated in an oil-free vacuum evaporation chamber (EpiTech Inc., ET300-6EHK) built into a glove box (UNICO, UL-1400ATW) $(H_2O < 0.7 \text{ ppm}, O_2 < 0.2 \text{ ppm})$ (Fig.2.3). The samples were not exposed to air at any time during either film fabrication or measurement in order to avoid effects due to moisture and oxygen.



Fig.2.3 Vacuum chamber contained within a glove box.

2.3. Finely Controlled Doping

Doping of the organic semiconductors was performed by co-evaporation. Each material was put into individual Al_2O_3 melting pots. Evaporation was performed by resistance heating with a tungsten basket *in vacuo*. Evaporation rates of organic semiconductors and dopants were independently monitored by quartz crystal microbalances (QCMs) (Fig. 2.4).

Fine control of the deposition rate of small amounts of doping was performed using the QCM equipped with a computer monitoring system (ULVAC, Depoview).
The film thickness monitored by the QCM was calibrated using a surface profilometer (Dektak) (Fig. 2.5). The dependence of the film thickness of the dopant on evaporation time is shown in Fig. 2.6. The evaporation rate can be determined from the gradient of the baseline (Fig. 2.6, red line). The fluctuations observed in the measurement are attributed to temperature fluctuations in the cooling water flowing through the QCM. An evaporation rate of 10^{-5} nm s⁻¹ can be estimated from the gradient. When the host organic semiconductor evaporates at 0.2 nm s⁻¹, the ratio of the evaporation rate of the dopant to that of the host organic semiconductor gives a doping concentration of 50 ppm in volume. The deposition rate for the organic semiconductors was kept to 0.2 nm s⁻¹ and those of the dopants were adjusted from 10^{-5} to 2 x 10^{-3} nm s⁻¹ to give doping concentrations from 50 to 10,000 ppm.



Fig. 2.4 Schematic illustration of coevaporation for doping of organic semiconductors.



Fig. 2.5 Stylus surface profilometer for calibrating the film thickness.



Fig. 2.6 Monitored dopant thickness vs. evaporation time.

2.4. Kelvin Probe Measurements

The Fermi levels (E_F) in the organic semiconductor films were determined using a Kelvin probe (Riken Keiki, FAC-1) (Fig.2.7).³⁻¹¹⁾ The films were deposited on indium tin oxide (ITO) substrates. A gold plate, the work function of which was measured by atmospheric photoelectron spectroscopy, was used as a standard for the work function measurements. All E_F measurements were performed in a N₂ atmosphere to avoid the effects of oxygen and moisture.



Fig. 2.7 Kelvin Probe for Fermi level measurements.

2.5. Capacitance-Voltage Measurements

Capacitance–voltage (C–V) measurements were performed in order to obtain the carrier concentration (N) of doped C₆₀ using Schottky junction cells comprising ITO/MoO₃ (10 nm)/MoO₃-doped C₆₀ (1 μ m)/bathocuproin (BCP) (15 nm)/Ag (100 nm).^{12,13)} A periodic triangular bias from a function generator (Hokuto Denko HB-102) was applied to the cell and the dark current hysteresis (Fig. 2.8(a)) was measured using a picoammeter (Keithley 485).

The differential capacitance, C_d (V) was calculated using Eq. (2.1),

$$C_d (V) = \Delta I (V)/8V_0 f \qquad (2.1)$$

where ΔI (V), V₀, and f are the difference in the dark current due to hysteresis, the amplitude of the scanning voltage, and the frequency of the periodic triangular bias, respectively. Mott-Schottky plots, i.e., C_d⁻² vs. V plots are shown in Fig. 2.8(b). C_d⁻² is given by Eq. (2.2)

$$C_d^{-2} = 2(V - V_{bi})/eN\varepsilon_0\varepsilon.$$
(2.2)

The carrier concentration (N) can be determined from the gradient $(2/eN\epsilon_0\epsilon)$ of the linear part (broken line).



Fig. 2.8 Examples of (a) dark current hysteresis and (b) a Mott-schottky plot.

2.6. Fabrication of Organic Solar Cells

Indium tin oxide (ITO) coated glass substrates (Sanyo Vacuum Industries) were washed three times with water (10 min), methanol (10 min), and acetone (10 min), respectively, in an ultrasonic bath. All of the films were deposited by vacuum evaporation onto ITO glass substrates at 10⁻⁵ Pa using an oil-free vacuum evaporator (EpiTech Inc., ET300-6E-HK). The film thicknesses were determined by simultaneous monitoring of the deposition using quartz crystal microbalances (QCM). For doping co-deposited films, the organic semiconductors and dopants were

evaporated from different sources. Ag electrodes were deposited on the organic films through a metal mask with an aperture of 0.06 cm^2 .

2.7. Measurements of Photovoltaic Properties

2.7.1. General

The photovoltaic properties of the cells were measured by setting the cells in a vacuum sample container with a quartz glass window (Epi Tech Inc.) (Fig. 2.9). The container was evacuated to 10^{-3} Pa. The area of the photo-irradiated cell was precisely defined using a metal mask with an aperture of 0.04 cm².



Fig. 2.9 Vacuum sample container with a quartz glass window.

2.7.2. Current Density-Voltage (J-V) Characteristics

The current density-voltage (*J-V*) characteristics were measured by irradiating the cell with simulated solar light (USHIO INC., MS110AAA) (AM1.5, 100 mW cm⁻²) (Fig. 2.10). Fig. 2.11 shows typical current-voltage (*J-V*) characteristics in the dark and under irradiation with the simulated solar light. The voltage was swept from -1.0 to 1.0 V at 0.1 V · s⁻¹. The photocurrent density at 0 V and the voltage at 0 mAcm⁻² are defined as the short-circuit current density (J_{sc}) and the open-circuit voltage (V_{oc}), respectively. The power conversion efficiency (η_p), i.e., the ratio of the maximum power that the cell can produce (P_{max}) to the incident light intensity (P_{in}), is given by the following equation (Eq.2.3).

$$\eta_{\rm P} = \frac{P_{\rm max}}{P_{\rm in}} = \frac{J_{\rm sc} \cdot V_{\rm oc} \cdot FF}{P_{\rm in}}$$
(2.3)

The fill factor (FF) is the ratio of the maximum power (red shaded rectangle, Fig. 2.11) to the product of J_{sc} and V_{oc} (dashed line rectangle, Fig. 2.10) (Eq. 2.4).

$$FF = \frac{P_{\max}}{J_{sc} \cdot V_{oc}} = \frac{J_{\max} \cdot V_{\max}}{J_{sc} \cdot V_{oc}}$$
(2.4)

 J_{max} and V_{max} are the current density and voltage at the maximum power output. FF signifies how close the J-V curve is to a step function. The closer the curve is to a step function, the larger the power that can be extracted.



Fig. 2.10 J-V measurement with a solar simulator.



Fig. 2.11 J-V characteristics under light irradiation (black solid curve) and in the dark (black broken curve).

2.7.3. Action Spectrum

The action spectrum is the incident photon to current conversion efficiency versus wavelength. Figure 2.12 shows the system used for measuring the action spectra. Monochromatic light from a Xe-lamp (Shimadzu, SPG-3ST) is passed through a monochromator and used to irradiate the photovoltaic cell. The difference between the photocurrent and the dark current, i.e., the number of carriers collected, was measured from 900 to 300nm in intervals of 20 nm under short-circuit conditions. The number of incident photons was determined by the same measurement using a standard silicon diode (Hamamatsu Photonics, S1337-66BQ). The external quantum efficiency (EQE) was determined from the ratio of the number of carriers collected to the number of incident photons.



Fig. 2.12 Action spectrum measurement system.

2.8. Conductivity Measurements

The conductivity of the organic semiconductor films was measured by the Van der Pauw method using a Hall effect/specific resistance measurement system (TOYO Corporation, ResiTest8300). Fig. 2.13 shows the configuration of the samples used for conductivity measurements. A 400 nm-thick cross-shaped organic semiconductor film was deposited through a metal mask onto a quartz substrate. To make good ohmic contact organic semiconductor layers heavily doped with MoO₃ (50,000 ppm) (10 nm thick) were deposited on the arms of the cross, and Ag electrodes (100 nm thick) were deposited on top of these. Thus, the conductivity was obtained by a four-terminal resistance measurement.



Fig. 2.13 Configuration of sample from the top (upper) and a cross-section (bottom).

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Chapter 3:

pn-Control and *pn*-Homojunction Formation of Metal-free Phthalocyanine by Doping

"pn-Control and pn-Homojunction Formation of Metal-free Phthalocyanine by Doping"

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Abstract

The Fermi level (E_F) of metal-free phthalocyanine (H_2Pc), located at the center of the bandgap (4.4 eV), is shifted to 3.8 eV, close to the conduction band (3.5 eV), by cesium carbonate doping and shifted to 4.9 eV, close to the valence band (5.1 eV), by molybdenum oxide doping under oxygen free conditions. Formation of *n*- and *p*-type Schottky junctions and *pn*-homojunctions in single H_2Pc films, confirmed by their photovoltaic properties, clearly demonstrates the formation of *n*- and *p*-type H_2Pc .

3.1 Introduction

Phthalocyanines and fullerene (C_{60}) are typical components in small-molecular-type organic photovoltaic cells.¹⁻⁸⁾ Based on experience with inorganic solar cells, to create a built-in potential, *pn*-control of highly purified organic semiconductors by doping^{9,10)} is required.¹¹⁾ For single C_{60} films, we have reported complete *pn*-control¹²⁾ and *pn*-homojunction formation.¹³⁾

For our next study, we chose metal-free phthalocyanine (H₂Pc) which is regarded as being *p*-type, with no reports of it being *n*-type. A few exceptions are *n*-type metal phthalocyanine doped with complexes having central metals like ruthenium,^{10,14} although there have been intensive studies on doping^{15,16} such as F_4 -TCNQ acting as typical *p*-type dopants.¹⁷ In this study, we used molybdenum oxide (MoO₃) ^{12,13,18,19} and cesium carbonate (Cs₂CO₃)^{20,21} as acceptor and donor dopants, respectively. Since H₂Pc is known to be *p*-type due to its unintentional doping with oxygen, the H₂Pc films were not exposed to air at any time during fabrication and measurement.

For this letter, pn-control and pn-homojunction formation in H₂Pc using Cs₂CO₃ and MoO₃ doping were reported. *n*-type H₂Pc was fabricated under oxygen free condition.

3.2 Experimental

The H₂Pc (Dainippon Ink & Chemicals) was purified once by single-crystal formed sublimation.^{7,22)} The acceptor and donor materials, MoO₃ (Alfa Aeser, 99.9995%) and Cs₂CO₃ (Aldrich, 99.995%), were used without further purification. Doped H₂Pc films were fabricated by co-evaporation on indium tin oxide (ITO) glass substrates at a chamber pressure of 10^{-5} Pa using an oil–free vacuum evaporator (EpiTech Inc., ET300-6E-HK). The evaporation rate of H₂Pc was kept to 0.2 nm s⁻¹. The evaporation rate of the dopants was 0.001 nm s⁻¹ to give doping concentrations of 5000 ppm.

The Fermi level (E_F) of 100 nm-thick H₂Pc films was measured by Kelvin vibrating capacitor apparatus (Riken-Keiki, FAC-1). Both the evaporation chamber and the Kelvin probe were built into a glove-box (Miwa, DBO-1.5) purged with N₂ gas (H₂O < 0.5 ppm, O₂ < 0.2 ppm). During film deposition and E_F measurements, the H₂Pc films were not exposed to air at any time. The current-voltage (J-V) characteristics and action spectra were measured at 10⁻⁵ Pa. The cells were protected from air by setting them in a sample container with a quartz window (EpiTech Inc.) inside the glove-box.

3.3 Results and Discussion

3.3.1. Control of Fermi Level in a Single H_2Pc Film by MoO_3 and Cs_2CO_3 doping

Since the E_F of Cs_2CO_3 film²³⁾ is located at 3.0 eV (Fig. 3.1), which is considerably more negative than the lower-edge of the conduction band of H₂Pc, 3.5 eV, it is reasonable that Cs_2CO_3 donates an electron to H₂Pc and forms a charge transfer (CT) complex, i.e., H₂Pc⁻---Cs₂CO₃⁺. Here, the positive charge on the Cs₂CO₃⁺ group can be regarded as a spatially fixed ion, i.e., an ionized donor. The negative charge on H₂Pc⁻ can be liberated by thermal energy and acts as a free electron in the conduction band of H₂Pc, making it *n*-type. The opposite mechanism occurs for MoO₃ doping. Since the E_F of MoO₃ film is located at 6.7 eV (Fig. 3.1), which is considerably more positive than the upper-edge of the valence band of H₂Pc, 5.1 eV, MoO₃ extracts an electron from H₂Pc and forms a CT complex, i.e., H₂Pc⁺---MoO₃⁻.²⁴⁾ Positive charge liberated from H₂Pc⁺ makes H₂Pc *p*-type.



Fig. 3.1. Energy diagram of a H₂Pc film. The broken lines show the energy levels of E_F for undoped (black), MoO₃-doped (5000 ppm in volume concentration) (red) and Cs_2CO_3 -doped (5000 ppm)(blue) H₂Pc films. E_F for MoO₃ (100 nm) and Cs_2CO_3 (100 nm) films are also shown. The energy levels of the upper edge of the valence band and the lower edge of the conduction band of a H₂Pc film were determined by atmospheric photoelectron spectroscopy and the optical bandgap, respectively.

3.3.2. Formation of p- and n-Schottky Junctions and pn-Homojunction

In order to confirm the formation of n- and p-type H₂Pc, the photovoltaic properties of Cs₂CO₃-doped and MoO₃-doped H₂Pc single cells (Fig. 3.2(a)) were measured. Both cells showed photovoltages indicating that ITO/MoO_3 is positive and bathocuproine (BCP)/Ag is negative (Fig. 3.3(b)(d)). Differences appear in the action spectra of the external quantum efficiency (EQE) (Fig. 3.3(a)(c)). For the Cs_2CO_3 -doped cell (Fig. 3.3(a)), under irradiation on the ITO side (hv(ITO), red curve), the action spectrum appears in the same region as the H₂Pc absorption spectrum (black curve). On the other hand, under irradiation on the Ag side (hv(Ag), blue curve), the EQE values are very small and the action spectrum has peaks around the edges of the absorption spectrum. This is the so-called "masking effect" and proves that the photoactive junction is located at the MoO₃/H₂Pc interface. Judging from the positive photovoltage on the MoO_3 side (Fig. 3.3(b)) and the photoactive junction at the MoO_3/H_2Pc interface, the Cs_2CO_3 -doped H_2Pc film exhibits *n*-type behavior and a downwardly-bent Schottky junction can be drawn at the MoO₃/n-type H₂Pc interface (Fig. 3.4(a)). Thus, the formation of *n*-type H_2Pc by Cs_2CO_3 doping was confirmed by photovoltaic observations.

For the MoO₃-doped cell (Fig. 3.3(c)), under irradiation on the ITO side (hv(ITO), red curve), a strong masking effect is observed. Conversely, under irradiation on the Ag side (hv(Ag), blue curve), the action spectrum agrees well with the absorption spectrum (black curve). Obviously, the photoactive interface is located on the opposite side to that in the Cs₂CO₃-doped cell, i.e., at the H₂Pc/Ag interface. Judging from the negative photovoltage of the Ag electrode (Fig. 3.3(d)) and the photoactive junction at the H₂Pc/Ag interface, the H₂Pc film exhibits *p*-type behavior

and a upwardly-bent Schottky junction can be drawn at the *p*-type H₂Pc/Ag interface (Fig. 3.4(b)). Thus, the formation of *p*-type H₂Pc by MoO₃ doping was confirmed by photovoltaic observations.²⁵⁾

For the next step, we fabricated a Cs_2CO_3 -/MoO_3-doped homojunction cell (Fig. 3.2(b)). The homojunction was formed at the center of a 500 nm-thick H₂Pc film. Irrespective of whether the ITO side (hv(ITO), Fig. 3.3(c), red curve) or the Ag side (hv(Ag), Fig. 3.3(c), blue curve) was illuminated both action spectra have significant peaks at the edges of the H₂Pc absorption spectrum (black curve). The simultaneous observation of masking effects for light irradiation from both sides confirms that the photoactive zone is located neither at the MoO₃/H₂Pc nor the H₂Pc/Ag interface, i.e., it is located deep in the bulk of the cell. Judging from the negative photovoltage on the Ag electrode (Fig. 3.3(f)) and the photoactive junction deep in the bulk of the cell, a *pn*-homojunction has been formed at the Cs₂CO₃-doped/MoO₃-doped junction (Fig. 3.4(c)).



Fig. 3.2. The structure of H_2Pc single film cells sandwiched between ITO/MoO₃ and BCP/semitransparent Ag electrodes. (a) The H_2Pc films are doped uniformly with Cs_2CO_3 (5500 ppm) or MoO₃ (5600 ppm). (b) Cs_2CO_3 (5500 ppm)-/MoO₃ (5600 ppm). (b) Cs_2CO_3 (5500 ppm)-/MoO₃ (5600 ppm).



Fig. 3.3. Action spectra of the EQE of the short-circuit photocurrent and current-voltage characteristics for a Cs_2CO_3 -doped cell (a)(b), a MoO_3 -doped cell (c)(d), and a Cs_2CO_3 -/MoO_3-doped homojunction cell (e)(f). For action spectra (a)(c)(e), the red and blue curves correspond to irradiation of light on the ITO electrode (hv(ITO)) and Ag electrode (hv(Ag)), respectively. The black curves show the absorption spectrum of the H₂Pc film (500 nm). For current-voltage characteristics (b)(d)(f), photovoltage direction corresponds to that ITO/MoO_3 is positive and bathocuproine (BCP)/Ag is negative. Photocurrent under the simulated solar illumination (AM1.5, 100 mWcm⁻²) and dark current are shown by solid and broken curves, respectively.

Based on the energy levels in Fig. 3.1, one can illustrate the energy band structures of an *n*-type Schottky junction at the MoO₃/*n*-type H₂Pc interface (Fig. 3.4(a)),²⁶⁾ a *p*-type Schottky junction at the *p*-type H₂Pc/Ag (work function: 4.1 eV) interface (Fig. 3.4(b)), and a *pn*-homojunction at the *p*-type H₂Pc/*n*-type H₂Pc interface (Fig. 3.4(c)). On the other hand, the band bending in energy diagrams in Figs. 3.4(a), (b) and (c) can be also mapped in real scale based on the Kelvin probe measurements^{18,27)} and the widths of depletion regions for *n*-type (Fig 3.4(a)), *p*-type (Fig 3.4(b)) Schottky junctions and *pn*-homojunction (Fig 3.4(c)) were determined to 23, 30, and 35 nm, respectively. These band diagrams are consistent with the observed results.



Fig. 3.4. Energy band diagrams for Cs_2CO_3 -doped (a), MoO_3 -doped (b), and Cs_2CO_3 -/MoO_3-doped (c) cells. Scales of energy and length are indicated by double-headed arrows. Photocarrier generation occurs in the depletion regions (shaded).

3.4. Conclusion

In conclusion, *n*- and *p*-type H₂Pc films were fabricated by intentionally doping with Cs₂CO₃ and MoO₃. In order to make *n*-type H₂Pc, exposure to oxygen should be avoided. Conventionally, H₂Pc and C₆₀ have been regarded as inherent *p*- and *n*-type semiconductors, respectively. However, *n*-H₂Pc and *p*-C₆₀^{12,13} can be formed by doping. So, it is reasonable that single organic semiconductors can, in general, be controlled to be *n*- or *p*-type, similar to inorganic semiconductors. Since the single H₂Pc films showed only small photocurrent (Fig. 3.3(b)(d)(f)) and the co-deposited film consisting of C₆₀ and H₂Pc showed high photovoltaic performance,^{7,8}) we are now investigating the direct doping into the photoactive C₆₀:H₂Pc films to create designed built-in field in the co-deposited films.

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- 23) Since the Cs_2CO_3 film is transparent, metallic Cs is not formed during vacuum evaporation.
- 24) Codeposited films of H₂Pc:Cs₂CO₃ and H₂Pc:MoO₃ with a ratio of 1:1 showed new absorption bands which can be attributed to CT absorption.
- 25) For an undoped H₂Pc cell, a photocurrent appeared throughout the visible region (400-800 nm) irrespective of which side was irradiated, though the magnitudes of the EQE values were only about 1% compared to the doped cells. This means that the photocurrent was generated uniformly in the H₂Pc film bulk due to the intrinsic nature of undoped H₂Pc. Detailed examination suggests that the undoped H₂Pc tends to have a slightly *n*-type nature.
- 26) Though there is a small barrier at the Cs₂CO₃-doped H₂Pc/Ag interface based on the measured work function of Ag (4.13 eV), it is not shown in Figs. 3.4(b) and (c) for simplification since its barrier height (0.37 eV) is far smaller than that of the Cs₂CO₃-doped H₂Pc/MoO₃ interface (2.93 eV).

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Chapter 4: Improved Photovoltaic Characteristics by MoO₃ Doping of Thick Hole-Transporting Films

"Improved Photovoltaic Characteristics by MoO₃-doping to Thick Hole Transporting Films", Yusuke Shinmura, Masayuki Kubo, Toshihiko Kaji, and Masahiro Hiramoto, , Jpn. J. Appl. Phys., **52**, 04CR12 (2013).

Abstract

Thick heterojunction cells composed of fullerene and p-type hole-transporting materials (HTMs) doped with molybdenum oxide (MoO₃) were fabricated. The Fermi level (E_F) of HTMs shifted toward the positive direction and close to the upper edge of the valence band following MoO₃ doping. These E_F shifts indicate that intrinsic HTMs changed to be of the p-type. The introduction of p-type HTMs to the cells increased photocurrent density and fill factor. The increase in photocurrent density can be explained by the formation of built-in potential at the interface between p-type HTMs and C_{60} . On the other hand, the increase in fill factor can be explained by the drastic decrease in the resistance of 300-nm-thick HTM films, which reached a very small value of 2 Ω .

4.1 Introduction

Recently, the power conversion efficiency of organic solar cells has increased rapidly.¹⁻³⁾ High open-circuit voltage (V_{oc}) is an essential factor for achieving high efficiency.⁴⁻⁸⁾ In the case of organic pn-junction cells, V_{oc} depends on the gap between the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) of the donor and the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) of the acceptor⁹⁾. Namely, the wide gap results in a high V_{oc} . Therefore, the donors having a deep-lying HOMO are promising. One candidate for achieving this is the use of hole-transporting materials (HTMs) having a deep-lying HOMO.¹⁰⁻¹²⁾ Actually, heterojunction cells composed of HTMs and fullerene (C₆₀), which show a high V_{oc} , have been reported.¹³⁾

On the other hand, another way to achieve high efficiency is the utilization of thick films in photovoltaic cells.¹⁴⁾ Films of more than 300 nm thickness can sufficiently absorb irradiated solar light, which provides a high photocurrent. Decreasing the cell resistance is essential for preventing cell performance degradation through the use of thick organic films which normally exhibit high resistance.

An effective way to decrease the resistance of organic semiconductors is impurity doping as in inorganic semiconductors.¹⁵⁾ Recently, we have reported the pn-control of $C_{60}^{16,17)}$ and metal-free phthalocyanine¹⁸⁾ using molybdenum oxide (MoO₃) and cesium carbonate (Cs₂CO₃) as the acceptor and donor dopants, respectively. Tetrafluorotetracyano-quinodimethane (F₄-TCNQ)^{19,20)} and MoO₃^{21,22)} have been reported as suitable acceptor dopants for HTMs. Therefore, in this study, we adopted MoO₃ as the acceptor dopant for HTMs to decrease cell resistance.

In this paper, we report on the improvement of photovoltaic characteristics of heterojunction cells composed of C_{60} and three kinds of thick HTMs doped with MoO₃,

as a preliminary step toward the fabrication of cells incorporating thick codeposited films.

4.2 Experimental

N,N'-Bis(3-methylphenyl)-N,N'-bis(phenyl)-benzidine (TPD) (Tokyo Chemical Industry, 99.99%), α -naphthylphenylbiphenyl diamine (NPD) (Luminescence Technology, 99.99%), and 4,4',N,N'-diphenylcarbazole (CBP) (Luminescence Technology, 99.99%) were used as the HTMs. The HTMs were used without further purification.

All of the films were deposited by vacuum evaporation onto indium-tin-oxide (ITO) glass substrates under 10^{-5} Pa pressure using an oil-free vacuum evaporator (ULVAC VTS-350M/ERH). MoO₃ doping was performed by coevaporation with the HTMs. The Fermi level (E_F) of HTM films with a thickness of 100 nm was measured using a Kelvin vibrating capacitor apparatus (Riken-Keiki FAC-1). Both the evaporation chamber and the Kelvin probe were built into a glovebox (Miwa DBO-1.5) purged with N₂ gas. The concentrations of H₂O and O₂ were kept below 0.5 and 0.2 ppm, respectively. During film deposition and E_F measurements, the HTM films were not exposed to air at any time. The specific resistance of 1-µm-thick HTM films were measured by the van der Pauw method using a Hall effect/specific resistance measurement system (TOYO ResiTest8300) without exposure to air by setting the sample films into a sample container inside the glovebox. Current voltage (*J-V*) characteristics and action spectra were measured by irradiating the films with simulated solar light (AM1.5, 100 mW cm⁻²) and monochromatic light from a Xe lamp through a

monochromator, respectively, under vacuum at 10^{-3} Pa.

4.3 Results and Discussion

4.3.1. Fermi Level Shifts by Doping with MoO₃

Figure 4.1 shows the energy diagrams of the HTMs, C_{60} , and MoO₃ films. The broken lines show the energetic positions of the Fermi levels (E_F) that were observed for the HTMs. The values of E_F for undoped TPD, NPD, and CBP are 4.0, 4.5, and 4.9 eV, respectively, i.e., around the center of the band gap. This suggests that HTM films are intrinsic in nature. When doped with MoO₃ at approximately 4000 ppm, the values of E_F for TPD, NPD, and CBP shifted toward the positive direction and reached 4.9, 5.0, and 5.7 eV, which is close to the upper edge of the valence band, signifying that the intrinsic HTMs changed to be of the p-type by MoO₃ doping.



Fig. 4.1. Energy diagram of hole-transporting materials (TPD, NPD, CBP) and C_{60} . E_F values of undoped and MoO₃-doped HTMs are shown by the black and red broken lines, respectively. E_F of MoO₃ is also shown. VB and CB denote the valence band and the conduction band, respectively.

4.3.2. Formation of CT Complexes

Figure 4.2 shows the absorption spectra for heavily MoO_3 -doped (HTM:MoO_3 = 1:1 in volume) (red curves) and undoped HTMs (black curves). Both the undoped HTMs and MoO_3 are colorless. However, when MoO_3 was heavily doped, the colors of the HTM films changed to deep green (see photographs), and new broad absorption bands spreading from the visible to the near-infrared region appeared.

On the basis of the above observations, the doping mechanism can be illustrated in Fig. 4.3. MoO_3 can extract an electron from an HTM molecule, since it has a remarkably positive E_F at 6.7 eV, which is more positive than the upper edge of the valence bands of all of the three HTMs. Therefore, the strong green absorption can

be attributed to the formation of CT complexes, i.e., HTM⁺---MoO₃⁻. The change to the p-type characteristic of the HTMs is induced by the liberation of positive charges due to thermal energy.



Fig. 4.2. Absorption spectra of (a) TPD, (b) NPD and (c) CBP. The red curves show heavily MoO_3 -doped HTM films (HTM:MoO_3=1:1; total thickness, 200 nm). The black curves show undoped HTM films (thickness, 100 nm). The absorption spectrum of a single MoO_3 film is shown by the blue curve in (a). Photographs of heavily MoO_3 -doped TPD (a), NPD (b), and CBP (c) films (HTM:MoO_3=1:1; total thickness, 400 nm) are also shown in the figures.



Fig. 4.3 Mechanism of MoO₃ doping of HTMs.

4.3.3. Decrease in Film Resistances

Since the increase in the carrier concentration of the positive charges was expected to decrease resistance, we measured the specific resistance of the HTMs by the van der Pauw method. As shown in Fig. 4.4, the specific resistances of the undoped HTMs were extremely high, that is, higher than $10^8 \Omega$ cm. When the doping concentration of MoO₃ increased, the resistance decreased rapidly by four orders of magnitude and reached $6.5 \times 10^4 \Omega$ cm in the case of CBP. This result clearly proves the formation of p-type HTM.



Fig. 4.4. Dependence of specific resistance of HTM films on doping concentration of MoO_3 . 300-nm-thick and 1 cm² area film resistance calculated from specific resistance is also shown on the right vertical axis.

4.3.4. Improvement of Photocarrier Generation

Since we have shown that p-type HTMs were fabricated, as a next step, we tried to incorporate the p-type HTMs into photovoltaic cells; thus, a series of HTM/C₆₀ heterojunction cells (Fig. 4.5) were fabricated. As shown in Fig. 4.6(a), in the case of TPD, J_{sc} increased 2.7 times from 0.33 to 0.90 mA cm⁻² and the fill factor (FF) increased 1.5 times from 0.28 to 0.42 following MoO₃ doping at a concentration of 50,000 ppm. Similarly, in the cases of NPD and CBP, J_{sc} increased 1.4 and 2.7 times,

and FF increased 1.5 and 2.0 times, respectively. Simultaneously, clear rectification characteristics were observed. As shown in Fig. 4.7, the external quantum efficiency (EQE) under short-circuit conditions was significantly increased by MoO₃ doping. Namely, photocarrier generation efficiency increased.



Fig. 4.5. Structure of HTM/C₆₀ heterojunction cells.



Fig. 4.6. *J-V* curves for heterojunction cells incorporating TPD (a), NPD (b), and CBP (c). The black and red curves correspond to cells incorporating undoped and MoO₃-doped HTMs, respectively. Photocurrent and dark current are shown by the solid and broken curves, respectively. Performances of MoO₃-doped cells. (a) J_{sc} , 0.90 mA cm⁻²; V_{oc} , 0.67 V; FF, 0.42; Efficiency, 0.25%. (b) J_{sc} , 0.90 mA cm⁻²; V_{oc} , 0.67 V; FF, 0.42; Efficiency, 0.25%. (b) J_{sc} , 0.90 mA cm⁻²; V_{oc} , 0.67 V; FF, 0.43; Efficiency, 0.31%. (c) J_{sc} , 0.17 mA cm⁻²; V_{oc} , 1.10 V; FF, 0.43; Efficiency, 0.083%.


Fig. 4.7. Action spectra for heterojunction cells incorporating TPD (a), NPD (b), and CBP (c). The black and red curves correspond to the cells incorporating undoped and MoO₃-doped HTMs, respectively.

The increases in FF can be reasonably explained by the decrease in the resistance of 300-nm-thick HTM films. Actually, the resistance of a 300-nm-thick CBP film in a cell is only 2 Ω in the case of 50,000 ppm MoO₃ doping (Fig. 4.4, right vertical axis). The completely reverse relationship between the resistance of HTMs and FF (compare Figs. 4.4 and 4.8) with respect to MoO₃-doping concentration strongly supports the idea that a high FF was obtained due to a low HTM resistance.



Fig. 4.8. Dependence of FF on doping concentration of MoO₃.

The increase in photocarrier generation efficiency can be reasonably explained by the formation of a built-in potential. Figure 4.9 shows the energy structures of heterojunctions of C_{60} /undoped TPD (a), and C_{60} /MoO₃-doped TPD (b), illustrated on the basis of the energy relationship shown in Fig. 4.1. The E_Fs of TPD and C_{60} are assumed to be aligned. In the case of undoped TPD [Fig. 4.9(a)], a low photocurrent is generated owing to the absence of a built-in potential at the TPD/C₆₀ interface. In the case of MoO₃-doped TPD [Fig. 4.9(b)], a higher photocurrent is generated owing to the formation of a built-in potential due to the pn-heterojunction at the TPD/C₆₀ interface. The cases of NPD and CBP can also be similarly explained. Therefore, we concluded that the observed photovoltaic properties that were attributable to the MoO₃ doping could be reasonably explained by a positive shift of E_F and a decrease in the resistance of the HTM.



Fig. 4.9. The energy structure of a TPD/ C_{60} interface after contact for undoped (a) and MoO₃-doped TPD (b).

4.4 Conclusion

The photovoltaic characteristics of heterojunction cells incorporating 300-nm-thick hole-transporting films were improved by MoO_3 doping owing to the decrease in cell resistance and the formation of built-in potentials. The present doping technique could lead to the development of a new type of photovoltaic cells incorporating thick codeposited films composed of HTM and C_{60} that can absorb the entire incident solar light.

4.5 References

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Chapter 5: Mapping of Band-bending for Doped C₆₀ Films

"Mapping of Band-Bending for Doped C_{60} Films", Yusuke Shinmura, Tadashi Yoshioka, Toshihiko Kaji, and Masahiro Hiramoto, *Appl. Phys. Express.*, **7**, 071601 (2014).

Abstract

Mapping of the band-bending that occurs at the interfaces between fullerene (C_{60}) films doped with either cesium carbonate $(C_{82}CO_3)$ as a donor or molybdenum oxide (MoO_3) as an acceptor and indium tin oxide electrodes was performed by using a Kelvin probe. The carrier concentrations determined from the depletion layer widths coincided well with those obtained from the capacitance-voltage characteristics. An ionization efficiency of 10% was determined for the molecularly dispersed dopant $(C_{82}CO_3)$ in C_{60} , which is significantly less than the 100% for phosphorus in Silicon.

5.1 Introduction

Organic photovoltaic cells have been intensively studied and developed.¹⁻⁵⁾ Developments similar to that for inorganic photovoltaic cells⁶ have included *pn*-control, which is a powerful technique to create a built-in potential and to decrease cell resistance. Suitable dopants for organic semiconductors, such as tetrafluoro-tetracyano-quinodimethane $(F_4$ -TCNQ)⁷⁾ and molybdenum oxide $(MoO_3)^{8)}$, have been developed. We have recently reported pn-control and the fabrication of *pn*-homojunctions in fullerene $(C_{60})^{9-11}$ and in metal-free phthalocyanine¹² by doping with cesium carbonate (Cs_2CO_3) as a donor and with MoO_3 as an acceptor. We have also reported *pn*-control and the fabrication of *pn*-homojunctions and tandem cells simply by doping codeposited films composed of C_{60} and α -sexithiophene.^{13,14)}

To engineer an energetic structure within the cells requires strict control of the carrier concentration by adjustment of the doping concentration. In this study, a band-mapping method using a Kelvin probe was adopted to evaluate carrier concentration (Fig. 5.1).¹¹⁾ When doped organic semiconductors are in contact with indium tin oxide (ITO) electrodes, the Fermi level (E_F) is aligned. Accordingly, the vacuum level (E_{VAC}) is bent and the value of the work function, which is defined as the difference between E_{VAC} and E_F (red double-headed arrows, Fig. 5.1), changes with the thickness of the films. Thus, band-bending with a change in the thickness of doped organic semiconductor films can be directly mapped (Fig. 5.1, lower) by measuring the work function with a Kelvin probe (Fig. 5.1, middle). The band-bending gives the depletion layer width (W_{dep}) and built-in potential (V_{bi}). The carrier concentration (N) can be obtained using the equation $W_{dep} = (2\epsilon\epsilon_0 V_{bi}/eN)^{1/2}$, ¹⁵ where ϵ , ϵ_0 , and e are the relative dielectric constant, the dielectric constant of a vacuum, and the elementary

charge. Band bending for various doped organic semiconductors have been investigated by using ultraviolet and x-ray photoemission spectroscopy and Kelvin probe.¹⁶⁻²¹⁾ However, systematic investigation on the relationship between carrier concentration and doping concentration has not been reported. Moreover, systematic investigation on carrier concentration of *p*- and *n*-type doped C₆₀ has not been reported because of the absence of *p*-type C₆₀ before our work.⁹⁾

In this study, precise determination of the carrier concentration in doped C_{60} films is demonstrated using the Kelvin band-mapping method.



Fig. 5.1 Principle of band-mapping by Kelvin probe. An interface between ITO and p-type semiconductor films is shown. The dependence of the work function values (middle figure) corresponding to the red double-headed arrows (lower figure) on the thickness of the organic semiconductor film were measured by Kelvin probe. E_{vac} , E_F , CB, and VB denote the vacuum level, Fermi level, conduction band, and valence band, respectively.

5.2 Experimental

 C_{60} (Frontier Carbon Co., Ltd.) was purified to 7N (99.99999%) by sublimation growth of single crystals.^{22,23)} The acceptor and donor dopants, MoO₃ (Alfa Aeser, 99.9995%) and Cs₂CO₃ (Aldrich, 99.995%), were used as received without further purification. Doped C₆₀ films were deposited by co-evaporation onto ITO glass substrates at a pressure of 10⁻⁵ Pa using an oil–free vacuum evaporator (EpiTech Inc. ET300-6E-HK). Fine tuning of the evaporation rate was performed by computational monitoring (Depoview ULVAC). The evaporation rate of C₆₀ was maintained at 0.2 nm s⁻¹, and those of the dopants were adjusted from 0.0001 to 0.002 nm s⁻¹ to give dopant concentrations of 500 to 10,000 ppm by volume.

The E_F values of C_{60} films on ITO (work function: 4.7 eV) were measured using a Kelvin probe (Riken-Keiki FAC-1). Gold plate whose work function was measured by atmospheric photoelectron spectroscopy (Riken-Keiki, AC-1) was used as a standard for work function measurements by Kelvin probe. Capacitance-voltage (C-V) measurements were performed using Schottky junction cells with the structure of ITO/MoO₃ (10 nm)/MoO₃-doped C₆₀ (1 µm)/bathocuproin (BCP)(15 nm)/Ag (100 nm). A periodical triangular bias was applied to the cell with a function generator (Hokuto Denko HB-102) and the dark current was measured using a picoammeter (Keithley 485). No samples were exposed to air at any time (H₂O < 0.7 ppm, O₂ < 0.2 ppm) during film deposition and during the E_F and C-V measurements.

5.3 Results and Discussion

5.3.1. Mapping of Band-bending for Doped C_{60} Films

The dependence of the work functions on the thickness of the doped C_{60} films is shown in Fig. 5.2(a). For Cs₂CO₃-doping, the work function was shifted toward the negative direction and was close to the lower edge of the conduction band (CB) (3.9 eV). For MoO₃-doping, the work function was shifted toward the positive direction and was close to the upper edge of the valence band (VB) (6.4 eV). As the doping concentration increased for both dopants, the film thickness at which the work function shift finished became thinner and the magnitude of the energy shift became larger, i.e., W_{dep} decreased and V_{bi} increased. The *n*- and *p*-type band-bending of C_{60} films doped with Cs₂CO₃ (500 ppm) and MoO₃ (5,000 ppm), respectively, could be depicted by inverting the observed work function shift (Fig. 5.2(b)). These band-bendings can be fitted by quadratic functions (Fig. 5.2(a)) based on the Poisson equation. W_{dep} values of 24 nm and 21 nm and V_{bi} values of 0.29 V and 0.87 V were obtained, which indicate electron and hole concentrations of 2.5×10^{17} cm⁻³ and 9.6×10^{17} cm⁻³ for 500 ppm-Cs₂CO₃ and 5,000 ppm-MoO₃, respectively, using the ε value of 4.4 for C_{60} .²⁴⁾



Fig. 5.2 (a) Work function shifts in C_{60} films doped with Cs_2CO_3 and MoO_3 on ITO substrates. The bad-bending can be fitted by quadratic functions (solid lines) based on the Poisson equation. (b) Band-bending for Cs_2CO_3 -doped (500 ppm) and MoO_3 -doped (5,000 ppm) C_{60} films.

5.3.2. Carrier Concentration and Doping Efficiency

The accuracy of these carrier concentrations were cross-checked by conventional C-V measurements.²⁵⁾ The dark current hysteresis of a Schottky junction between 1,000 ppm MoO₃-doped C₆₀ and a Ag electrode is shown in Fig. 5.3(a).²⁶⁾ Mott-Schottky plots using differential capacitance (C_d) values obtained from the hysteresis ΔI (V),²⁷⁾ are shown in Fig. 5.3(b). From the linear part of the plots (broken lines), the carrier concentration for 5,000 ppm-MoO₃ doped C₆₀ was calculated to be 5×10^{17} cm⁻³, using the equation C_d⁻² = 2(V-V_{bi})/eNε₀ε. This value is relatively consistent with that obtained by the Kelvin method (9.6×10¹⁷ cm⁻³). A series of Kelvin probe measurements usually needs time for about 8 hours. Though oxygen and moisture concentration in glove box are extremely low, sensitive surface potential might be affected to during measurements and might cause the difference between Kelvin band-mapping and C-V method.

Figure 5.4(a) shows the dependence of the carrier concentration on the dopant concentration, according to the Kelvin method. The values obtained from the C-V characteristics coincide well with these levels, which supports the accuracy of the carrier concentrations obtained by Kelvin band-mapping. When the Cs₂CO₃-doping concentration increased, the carrier (electron) concentration increased rapidly and reached 10^{19} cm⁻³ at a doping concentration of 10,000 ppm. In addition, when MoO₃ was used as the dopant, the carrier (hole) concentration showed a minimum value of 4.3×10^{15} cm⁻³ at 500 ppm, which increased to 2.7×10^{18} cm⁻³ at 10,000 ppm. The minimum carrier concentration at 500 ppm MoO₃-doping indicates that the holes created by MoO₃-doping compensate the intrinsic *n*-type nature of C₆₀. Similar

phenomenon was observed for doped pentacene.²⁸⁾ Conductivity change due to the trap filling by doping was also reported.²⁹⁾

Figure 5.4(b) shows the doping efficiency, which is defined as the ratio of the induced carrier concentration to the dopant concentration. The doping efficiencies of Cs_2CO_3 - and MoO₃-doping are approximately 10% and 3%, respectively. The doping process can be explained by the formation of a charge-transfer (CT) complex and its subsequent ionization. Cs_2CO_3 is a substantial molecule, so that by assuming Cs_2CO_3 evaporates molecularly and the rate of CT complex formation with C₆₀ is close to unity,30) the observed doping efficiency of 10% can be regarded as the ionization efficiency, which is significantly less than the value of 100% obtained for the donor dopant Phosphorus (P) in Silicon (Si) at room temperature. The electron orbitals around the positive charge on the ionized donor for P-doping in Si and for Cs_2CO_3 -doping³¹⁾ in C_{60} are shown in Figs. 5.5(a) and (b), respectively. The ε value of Si is 11.9; therefore, the radius of the electron orbital around the positive charge of an ionized donor (P^+) is calculated to be 3.3 nm.³²⁾ This is fundamentally the same situation as the Wannier exciton, where the electron is easily liberated from the positive charge by thermal energy at room temperature, and thus the ionization efficiency reaches unity (Fig. 5.5(a)). The only difference to the exciton is that the positive charge is spatially fixed in the crystal lattice. In the case of Cs_2CO_3 -doping in C_{60} , the ε value of C₆₀ is 4.4, so that the electron experiences a stronger attractive force from the positive charge. The radius of the Frenkel exciton is only 0.5 nm for C_{60} . However, a CT complex is formed by employing Cs_2CO_3 -doping, i.e., $[Cs_2CO_3^+-C_{60}^-]$, and the charges are separated on the neighboring molecules (Fig. 5.5(b)). Therefore, this is fundamentally the same situation as the CT exciton, so that the negative charge on C_{60} can be liberated by thermal energy at room temperature. Thus, significant ionization efficiencies for the electrons of approximately 10% were observed, although they were lower than that for Si. It is assumed that this lower ionization efficiency is due to the stronger attraction force between the smaller electron orbital and the positively ionized donor (Fig. 5.5(b)). In addition, it is probable that ionized donor impurities influence the value of ionization efficiency because the electron orbital is located close to the impurities.

A doping efficiency of 3% was obtained for MoO_3 under the assumption that MoO_3 forms a trimer (Mo_3O_9) .^{8,33)} A similar CT dissociation mechanism to that presented in Fig. 5.5(b) can also be applied in this case; however, the formation of larger MoO_x clusters³⁴⁾ lowers the efficiency of CT-complex formation, which lowers the total doping efficiency.



Fig. 5.3 (a) Dark current hysteresis for an ITO/MoO₃ (10 nm)/MoO₃-doped (1,000 ppm) C_{60} (1 μ m)/BCP (15 nm)/Ag cell measured at a scan rate of 3 Vs⁻¹. (b) Mott-Schottky plots for cells incorporating MoO₃-doped C_{60} films.



Fig. 5.4 Dependence of (a) carrier concentration and (b) doping efficiency on the doping concentration. The red diamond and blue bars represent the values obtained with the Kelvin probe and from the C-V characteristics, respectively.



Fig. 5.5 Orbital of an electron around a positive charge on an ionized donor. (a) P-doping in Si. P^+ is represented by the red shaded circle. This situation resembles a Wannier exciton. (b) Cs_2CO_3 -doping in C_{60} . $Cs_2CO_3^+$ is represented by the red shaded circle. This situation resembles a CT-exciton.

5.4 Conclusion

The carrier concentrations in C_{60} films induced by Cs_2CO_3 - and MoO_3 -doping were precisely determined by Kelvin band-mapping. An ionization efficiency of 10% was suggested, which is significantly less than that for Si. Current work is aimed at clarification of the detailed mechanism that determines the ionization efficiency by measurement of the temperature dependence. Kelvin band-mapping is thus demonstrated as an indispensable tool for the design of doped organic photovoltaic cells.

5.5 References

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- 26) For the ITO/MoO₃ (10 nm)/MoO₃-doped C₆₀ (1 μm)/bathocuproin (BCP) (15 nm)/Ag (100 nm) cell, photovoltaic measurements clearly showed that a Schottky junction was formed at the C₆₀/BCP/Ag interface, and an ohmic junction was formed at the ITO/C₆₀ interface.
- 27) Differential capacitance, C_d (V), was calculated using the equation C_d (V) = ΔI (V)/8V₀f, where ΔI (V), V₀, and f are the difference in the dark current due to hysteresis, the amplitude of the scanning voltage, and the frequency of the periodical triangular bias, respectively.
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- 30) There is no evidence of Cs₂CO₃ dissociation during vacuum evaporation, because a single Cs₂CO₃ film is completely transparent.
- 31) The diameter of a Cs_2CO_3 molecule is approximately 1 nm, which is close to that of C_{60} (1 nm).
- 32) The radius of an electron orbital around a positively ionized donor can be calculated based on the equation expressing the Bohr radius (r), which includes the relative permittivity (ϵ) and the effective mass of an electron (m_n^*), i.e., $r = \epsilon_0 \epsilon h^2 / \pi m_n^* e^2$.
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Chapter 6: Ionization Sensitization of Doping in Co-deposited Organic Semiconductor Films

"Ionization Sensitization of Doping in Co-deposited Organic Semiconductor Films", Yusuke Shinmura, Yohei Yamashina, Toshihiko Kaji, and Masahiro Hiramoto, *Appl. Phys. Lett.*, **105**, 183306 (2014).

Abstract

Sensitization of the dopant ionization in co-deposited films of organic semiconductors was found. The ionization rate of cesium carbonate (Cs_2CO_3), which acts as a donor dopant in single films of metal-free phthalocyanine (H_2Pc) and fullerene (C_{60}), was increased from 10% to 97% in a $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ co-deposited film. A charge separation superlattice model that includes electron transfer from the conduction band of H_2Pc to that of C_{60} , which increases the rate of dopant ionization, is proposed.

6.1 Introduction

Controlling the doping in small molecular organic photovoltaic cells¹⁻⁵⁾ to create a built-in potential has been developed over the last decade.⁶⁻⁹⁾ We have reported on the *pn*-control technique and the formation of *pn*-homojunctions using cesium carbonate (Cs₂CO₃), which acts as a donor, and molybdenum oxide, which acts as an acceptor for fullerene (C₆₀)¹⁰⁻¹²⁾ and metal-free phthalocyanine (H₂Pc)¹³⁾. A key element for exciton dissociation in organic solar cells is having a co-deposited film comprising two different types of organic semiconductor; therefore, we have also reported on the *pn*-control and formation of *pn*-homojunctions in C₆₀:H₂Pc and C₆₀:sexithiophene co-deposited films.¹⁴⁻¹⁷⁾

During the course of these studies, we made accurate estimates of the carrier concentrations generated by impurity doping by means of Kelvin band-mapping,¹⁸⁾ from which we found evidence of higher doping efficiencies for co-deposited films compared to those for the respective single films. Thus, we tried to clarify the reasons for the difference between the doping efficiencies in co-deposited films and single films of organic semiconductors. As a typical case, we chose metal-free phthalocyanine: fullerene (H₂Pc:C₆₀, H₂Pc:C₇₀) and metal-free phthalocyanine:perylene pigment (H₂Pc:Me-PTC) co-deposited films because of their high capability for exciton dissociation in organic solar cells. Cesium carbonate (Cs₂CO₃) and iron chloride (FeCl₃) were used as donor and acceptor dopants, respectively.

Here, we report on the notable increases in doping efficiency for *n*-type doped fullerenes: H_2Pc and *p*-type doped Me-PTC: H_2Pc co-deposited films.

6.2 Experimental

Fullerenes (Frontier Carbon Co., Ltd.; C₆₀: nanom purple TL, C₇₀: nanom orange STH), H₂Pc (Dainippon Ink & Chemicals, Inc., Fastogen Blue EP-101), and perylene pigment (Me-PTC, Fig. 6.1) were purified to 7N (99.99999%) by single-crystal sublimation.^{6,19,20)} The donor dopant, Cs₂CO₃ (Aldrich, 99.995%), and the acceptor dopant, FeCl₃ (Aldrich, 99.99%), were used without further purification. Doped single and co-deposited films were fabricated by means of co-evaporation from three sources onto indium tin oxide (ITO) glass substrates at a pressure of 10^{-5} Pa using an oil–free vacuum evaporator (EpiTech Inc., ET300-6E-HK). Fine tuning of the deposition rate was performed using a quartz crystal microbalance equipped with a computer monitoring system (Depoview, ULVAC). The deposition rate for the organic semiconductors was kept to 0.1 nm s⁻¹ and those for the dopants were adjusted from 10^{-5} to 2×10^{-3} nm s⁻¹ to give doping concentrations from 0.0002 to 0.05 in molar ratio (MR), i.e., 50 to 10,000 ppm in volume.

In order to determine the carrier concentrations created by doping, the band bending at the ITO/semiconductor interface was mapped by measuring the film thickness dependence of the work function using a Kelvin probe (Riken-Keiki, FAC-1). The detailed principle of Kelvin band-mapping is reported in Ref. 21. From the band bending, the depletion layer width (W_{dep}) and the built-in potential (V_{bi}) can be determined. Carrier concentration (N) can be calculated by Eq. (1).

$$N = 2\varepsilon\varepsilon_0 V_{bi} / eW_{dep}^2$$
⁽¹⁾

Here, ε , ε_0 , and e are the relative dielectric constant, the dielectric constant in vacuum, and the elementary charge, respectively. The samples were not exposed to air at any time during fabrication and the measurements (H₂O < 0.7 ppm, O₂ < 0.2 ppm).

6.3 Results and Discussion

6.3.1. Sensitization of Doping in Co-deposited Films

Fig. 6.1 shows an energy band diagram of the organic semiconductors and dopants. Cs₂CO₃ can donate an electron to lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) of H₂Pc (3.2 eV) and the fullerenes (3.9 eV)²²⁾, which is measured by near ultraviolet inverse photoemission spectroscopy,²³⁾ and thus acts as donor since its work function is located at a shallower position (2.96 eV). In practice, by Cs₂CO₃-doping (MR=0.02), the Fermi level (E_F) shifted toward the unoccupied density of states (DOS) and reached to 3.97, 4.00, and 3.48 eV for C₆₀, C₇₀, and H₂Pc, respectively. Both fullerenes and H₂Pc became *n*-type. On the other hand, FeCl₃ can withdraw an electron from highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) of H₂Pc (5.1 eV) and Me-PTC (5.4 eV) and acts as an acceptor since its work function is located at a deeper position (5.52 eV). By FeCl₃-doping (MR=0.03), E_F shifted toward the occupied DOS and reached to 4.72 and 5.04 eV for H₂Pc and Me-PTC, respectively. Both H₂Pc became *p*-type.



Fig. 6.1 Energy diagrams of organic semiconductors. The work functions with the donor (Cs_2CO_3) and acceptor (FeCl₃) dopants are also shown. E_Fs of C_{60} , C_{70} , and H_2Pc films doped with Cs_2CO_3 (MR=0.02) are shown by broken blue lines. E_Fs of H_2Pc and Me-PTC films doped with FeCl₃ (MR=0.03) are shown by broken red lines.

Fig. 6.2(a) shows the film thickness dependence of the work function for Cs_2CO_3 -doped H₂Pc:C₆₀ (1:1 in volume) co-deposited films (red circles) and the respective Cs_2CO_3 -doped single films of C₆₀ (orange diamonds) and H₂Pc (blue triangles). The shifts in work function due to the band-bending by doping are fitted by quadratic functions based on the Poisson equation (solid curves), which excludes the effect of a dipole layer of a few nanometers thickness in the vicinity of the ITO electrode²⁴⁾. Clearly, the depletion layer width (W_{dep}) in the H₂Pc:C₆₀ co-deposited film has shrunk to 10 nm from 20 and 30 nm in the respective C₆₀ and H₂Pc single films (arrows). This observation is a sign of an increase in the carrier concentration. From Eq. (1), concentrations of 3.2×10^{18} , 4.3×10^{17} , and 4.6×10^{17} cm⁻³ were obtained for the co-deposited film and the C₆₀ and H₂Pc films, respectively. By mixing C₆₀ and H₂Pc, the number of carriers created by Cs₂CO₃-doping was increased by a factor of around 10.

Essentially the same result was obtained for the H₂Pc:Me-PTC (1:1 in volume) system (Fig. 6.2(b)). FeCl₃ acting as an acceptor was introduced into a H₂Pc:Me-PTC co-deposited film and its respective Me-PTC and H₂Pc single films. Concentrations of 8.7×10^{18} , 5.3×10^{16} , and 6.9×10^{17} cm⁻³ were obtained for the co-deposited film and the Me-PTC and H₂Pc films, respectively. By mixing Me-PTC and H₂Pc, the number of carriers created by FeCl₃-doping was also increased increased by a factor of about 100 for Me-PTC.



Fig. 6.2. Film thickness dependences of the work function. (a) $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ (1:1) co-deposited film (red circles) and its component single C_{60} (orange diamonds) and H_2Pc (blue triangles) films. The Cs_2CO_3 doping concentration for all the films was MR=0.005. (b) $H_2Pc:Me-PTC$ (1:1) co-deposited film (pink circles) and its component single Me-PTC (black squares) and H_2Pc (blue triangles) films. The FeCl₃ doping concentration for all the films was MR=0.03. The depths of the band-bending are indicated by arrows. The solid curves are quadratic fits to the band-bending.

Fig. 6.3 shows the dependence of the carrier concentration and the doping efficiency on the doping concentration for $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ (a)(b) and $H_2Pc:C_{70}$ (c)(d) co-deposited films and their component films. The doping efficiency is defined by the ratio of the carrier concentration created to the molecular concentration of Cs_2CO_3 . Obviously, the carrier concentration is an order of magnitude larger for the co-deposited films (Fig. 6.3(a)(c), red and purple curves) compared to the respective component single films (Fig. 6.3(a)(c), orange, green and blue curves). The doping efficiencies of single films of C_{60} , C_{70} , and H_2Pc are around 10% (Fig. 6.3(b)(d), orange diamonds, green diamonds, blue triangles). In contrast, the doping efficiencies of the co-deposited films of $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ and $H_2Pc:C_{70}$ are around 50% (Fig. 6.3(b)(d), red and purple circles). Thus, we conclude that the doping efficiency was significantly enhanced in the co-deposited films.

Essentially the same phenomenon was observed for acceptor doping. By combining H_2Pc and Me-PTC, a considerable increase in doping efficiency to 30% was obtained from the 2% and 0.2% efficiencies obtained for H_2Pc and Me-PTC films, respectively (Table 6.I).²⁵⁾ Thus, we concluded that the increase in doping efficiency is universal and irrespective of whether the doping is donor or acceptor doping.



Fig. 6.3. Dependence of carrier concentration and doping efficiency on Cs_2CO_3 doping concentration for $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ (a)(b) and $H_2Pc:C_{70}$ (c)(d) co-deposited films and their component films.

Table 6.I. Ionization rates (doping efficiencies) of co-deposited films and their component single films and the factor by which the doping sensitization has increased for donor-doped $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ and acceptor-doped $H_2Pc:Me-PTC$ systems

	Ionization rate (Doping efficiency) / %				
	Co-deposited films	Single films			Rate of multiplication
		H ₂ Pc	C ₆₀	Me-PTC	maniphotetori
Donor doping (H ₂ Pc:C ₆₀ system)	50	10	10	-	10
Acceptor doping (H ₂ Pc:Me-PTC system)	30	2	-	0.2	300

6.3.2. Mechanisms of the Sensitization

The doping process for Cs_2CO_3 in H_2Pc can be explained by the charge-transfer (CT) complex, i.e., the formation of H_2Pc --- $Cs_2CO_3^+$ and its ionization.¹³⁾ Here, the positive charge on the $Cs_2CO_3^+$ is a spatially fixed positive ion, i.e., an ionized donor. The negative charge on the H_2Pc is liberated by thermal energy and acts as a free electron in the conduction band (Fig. 6.4(a)). Thus, the doping efficiency can be expressed by the product of the rates of the CT complex formation and ionization. Since Cs_2CO_3 exists as a molecule having a structure of Cs-O-(C=O)-O-Cs, it is reasonable to assume that Cs_2CO_3 evaporates molecularly and the rate of the CT complex formation with H_2Pc , C_{60} and C_{60} :H₂Pc films is close to unity.²⁶⁾ Thus, we consider that the observed doping efficiency represents the ionization efficiency.

We propose a charge separation superlattice model to explain the enhancement in ionization rate. Fig. 6.4(a) shows the energy structures of H₂Pc and C₆₀ single films before contact. The lower edge of the conduction band (CB) was determined by inverse photoelectron spectroscopy.²³⁾ The activation energy (ΔE_D) of 0.12 eV was determined from the ionization rate of 10%.²⁷⁾ Before contact, 10% of the electrons are excited to the conduction band and the other electrons are captured by donor levels (Fig. 6.4(a)).

By making contact with C_{60} , since the electron transfer from the conduction band of H₂Pc to that of C₆₀ (Fig. 6.4(a), blue arrow) occurs accompanied with energetic relaxation (0.7 eV), the electron concentration in H₂Pc decreases. Due to the shift in equilibrium, the electron liberation from the donor levels accelerates, i.e., the ionization rate for donors increases only in the H₂Pc region. Taking the molecular ratio of the H₂Pc:C₆₀ co-deposited film (1:1) into consideration, the ionization rate of the H₂Pc region in the co-deposited film can be estimated to be 100% while that in the C_{60} region is unchanged (10%), since the observed ionization rate of 55% for the H₂Pc:C₆₀ co-deposited film can be obtained by calculation, i.e., $100\% \times 0.5 + 10\% \times 0.5 = 55\%$. Thus, we concluded that for the H₂Pc region, the ionization rate increased from 10 to 100%, an increase of a factor of 10 (Table I). The ionization rate of 100% supports the assumption that the rate of formation of the CT complex is unity.

Fig. 6.4(b) and 6.4(c) show the 3-dimensional and cross sectional energy structures of charge separating H_2Pc/C_{60} superlattices after contact, respectively. Due to the faster liberation of electrons from the donors, all the donors in the H_2Pc region of the co-deposited film positively ionize and the energy band of H_2Pc is bent to a depth of 3.3 nm.²⁸⁾ In this model, the H_2Pc regions act as electron supplying layers to the C_{60} regions. The C_{60} regions act as electron transporting highways. Based on this model, we expect that the total ionization rate in H_2Pc : C_{60} co-deposited films would increase further by increasing the H_2Pc ratio.



Fig. 6.4 (a) Energy diagrams of Cs_2CO_3 -doped H₂Pc and C₆₀ single films before contact. ΔE_D denotes the activation energy of the donors. (b) 3-dimensional energy structure for a Cs_2CO_3 -doped H₂Pc/C₆₀ superlattice formed at an ITO interface after contact. (c) Cross sectional energy structure of a Cs_2CO_3 -doped H₂Pc/C₆₀ superlattice after contact, which is cut in parallel to ITO interface at after the end of band-bending by ITO. The H₂Pc:C₆₀ ratios are 1:1 (left) and 99:1 (right). The grey shaded parts show the accumulated electrons in C₆₀. (d) Cross sectional energy structure of a FeCl₃-doped Me-PTC/H₂Pc superlattice after contact. The energy relationships are depicted on the same scale in all figures.

Fig. 6.5(a) and 6.5(b) show the Kelvin band-mapping results and observed ionization rates for different ratios of H_2Pc in $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ co-deposited films doped with Cs_2CO_3 . As the H_2Pc ratio increases, the ionization rate increases proportionally, with good agreement to the calculated line (broken red line, Fig. 6.5(b)),²⁹⁾ and reached 97% at a $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ ratio of 99:1.

Interestingly, the positions of E_F after band-bending systematically shift in the negative direction with decreasing C_{60} (Fig. 6.5(a)). This is a sign that there is a more concentrated accumulation of liberated electrons in the thinner C_{60} regions, which lifts E_F by 0.38 eV for H₂Pc:C₆₀ (99:1) (compare the left and right plots in Fig. 6.4(c)). Since there should be a vast number of free electrons in the C_{60} conduction band under E_F , we assume that a confined electron gas exists on the C_{60} sides of the H₂Pc/C₆₀ interfaces, similar to that reported for inorganic AlGaAs/GaAs superlattices.³⁰⁾ This systematic observation also supports the proposed charge separation superlattice model.

For acceptor doping, the opposite mechanism occurs (Fig. 6.4(d)). Being in contact with H₂Pc, the holes in the valence band of Me-PTC energetically relax (0.3 eV) to the valence band of H₂Pc (red arrows) and their concentration in Me-PTC decreases. As a result, there is faster liberation of holes from the acceptors. For the Me-PTC region, the ionization rate increases from 0.2 to 60%, a 300 fold increase (Table I).



Fig. 6.5 (a) Dependence of work function on the film thickness for various ratios of H_2Pc in $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ co-deposited films doped with Cs_2CO_3 (MR=0.02). (b) Ionization rate for various ratios of H_2Pc in $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ co-deposited films. Calculated ionization rate is shown by the broken red line.
Direct ionization processes might occur when the ionized donor is located just at the C_{60}/H_2Pc molecular interface (Fig. 6.6). For donors in the single C_{60} and H_2Pc regions, the activation energy, i.e., the binding energy of an electron around a positively ionized donor $(Cs_2CO_3^+)$ (ΔE_D) is 0.12 eV (Fig. 6.4(a))²⁷⁾, which corresponds to an electron orbital radius of 1.6 nm (Fig. 6.6, blue circles).³¹⁾ This situation resembles CT exciton. The only difference is that the positive charge of the ionized donor is fixed. For donors just on the H₂Pc side of the C_{60}/H_2Pc molecular interface (Fig. 6.6, center), a cascade-like second electron transfer from the LUMO of the H₂Pc molecule to that of the C₆₀ molecule occurs (see Fig. 6.1). Compared to the binding energy (ΔE_D) of 0.12 eV, the relaxation energy of 0.58 eV^{32} is sufficient to liberate electrons by increasing the electron orbital radius to over 6.5 nm which has a binding energy comparable to the thermal energy of room temperature (kT = 0.026 eV) (Fig. 6.6, red semicircle).³³ This situation resembles Wanner exciton. It should be noted that a similar electron transfer from H_2Pc (D) to C_{60} (A) (Fig. 6.1), is utilized in organic solar cells to increase exciton dissociation, i.e., so-called donor/acceptor (D/A) sensitization. Thus, the present doping sensitization phenomenon can be regarded as analogous to D/A sensitization for dopant ionization.



Fig. 6.6 Schematic illustration of electron orbits around a positive ionized donor. The blue circles are those for donors in single C_{60} and H_2Pc regions. The red semicircle is that for a donor just on the H_2Pc side of the H_2Pc/C_{60} molecular interface.

6.4 Conclusion

In conclusion, sensitization of the ionization for both *n*- and *p*-type doping in organic semiconductor co-deposited films was observed. A significantly high ionization efficiency of 97%, comparable to that for silicon (100%), was achieved. The present phenomenon can be reasonably explained based on the charge separation superlattice model.

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- 25) Ionization rates were calculated under the assumption that FeCl₃ formed a chemically stable dimer molecule (Fe₂Cl₆) and doped molecularly.
- 26) There is no sign of Cs₂CO₃ dissociation during vacuum evaporation since single Cs₂CO₃ film is completely transparent.
- 27) $\Delta E_D = 0.12 \text{ eV}$ is calculated from the ionization rate of 0.1 which is expressed by exp(- $\Delta E_D/2kT$).
- 28) W_{dep} of the H₂Pc side at H₂Pc/C₆₀ interface (3.3 nm) was obtained by $W_{dep} = (2\epsilon\epsilon_0 V_{bi}/eN)^{1/2}$ with carrier concentration (N) $(2.2 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3})$ under 100% ionization and V_{bi} , i.e., the difference of E_Fs between single H₂Pc and C₆₀ (0.49 V).
- 29) For C₆₀:H₂Pc (9:1), $100\% \times 0.9 + 10\% \times 0.1 = 91\%$.

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- 31) The radius of an electron orbital around a positively ionized donor can be calculated based on the equation expressing the Bohr radius (r) including the relative permittivity (ϵ), the effective mass of an electron (m_n^*) and quantum number (n), *i.e.*, $r = \epsilon \epsilon_0 h^2 n^2 / \pi m_n^* e^2$. Binding energy $\Delta E_D = m_n^* e^4 / 8 \epsilon^2 \epsilon_0^2 h^2$ ($1/n^2$). The observed ΔE_D of 0.12 eV is obtained for n = 3 (r = 1.6 nm).
- 32) [Relaxation energy (0.58 eV)] = [energy difference between LUMOs for H₂Pc and $C_{60} (0.7 \text{ eV})] - [\Delta E_D (0.12 \text{ eV})].$
- 33) $\Delta E_D = 0.026 \text{ eV}$ is obtained for n = 6 (r = 6.5 nm).

Chapter 7:

7.1 Summary of This Thesis

Impurity doping to control the *pn*-junction characteristics is vital for increase in the photoconversion efficiency of organic solar cells. In order to design high-efficiency organic solar cells, the author has attempted to confirm whether or not this *pn*-control can be applied to any organic semiconductor, and to evaluate the carrier concentration in doped single and co-deposited organic semiconductor films.

Following effects arising from doping single and co-deposited organic semiconductor films have been revealed.

1) Organic semiconductors can, in general, be controlled to be *p*- or *n*-type, similar to inorganic semiconductors.

2) The doping efficiency in single C_{60} film is extremely low due to the strong attractive force between the small electron orbital and the positively ionized donor.

3) Ionization sensitization attributable to the charge separation occurs in the co-deposited film.

The ionization sensitization is a new knowledge which gives meaning to doping to co-deposited films, and is a unique characteristic of organic semiconductors. It now has the potential for development into organic electronic devices.

List of Publications

 "pn-Control and pn-Homojunction Formation of Metal-free Phthalocyanine by Doping"

Yusuke Shinmura, Masayuki Kubo, Norihiro Ishiyama, Toshihiko Kaji, and Masahiro Hiramoto, *AIP Adv.*, **2**, 032145 (6 pages)(2012).

 "Improved Photovoltaic Characteristics by MoO₃-doping to Thick Hole Transporting Films"
 <u>Yusuke Shinmura</u>, Masayuki Kubo, Toshihiko Kaji, and Masahiro Hiramoto, *Jpn.*

J. Appl. Phys., 52, 04CR12 (4 pages) (2013).

3) "Mapping of Band-Bending for Doped C₆₀ Films"

Yusuke Shinmura, Tadashi Yoshioka, Toshihiko Kaji, and Masahiro Hiramoto, *Appl. Phys. Express.*, **7**, 071601 (4 pages) (2014).

 "Ionization Sensitization of Doping in Co-deposited Organic Semiconductor Films" <u>Yusuke Shinmura</u>, Yohei Yamashina, Toshihiko Kaji, and Masahiro Hiramoto, *Appl. Phys. Lett.*, **105**, 183306 (5 pages) (2014).

List of Supplementary Publications

 "Invertible Organic Photovoltaic Cells with Heavily-doped Organic/Metal Ohmic Contacts"

Masayuki Kubo, <u>Yusuke Shinmura</u>, Norihiro Ishiyama, Toshihiko Kaji, and Masahiro Hiramoto, *Appl. Phys. Express*, **5**, 092302 (3 pages) (2012).

- 6) "Junction Formation by Doping in H₂Pc:C₆₀ Co-evaporated Films for Solar Cell Application"
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- 7) "Bandgap Science for Organic Solar Cells"
 M. Hiramoto, M. Kubo, <u>Y. Shinmura</u>, N. Ishiyama, T. Kaji, K. Sakai, T. Ohno, and M. Izaki, *Electronics*, 3, 351-380 (2014).

Oral Presentations

International conferences

 "Improved Photovoltaic Characteristics by MoO₃-doping to Thick Hole Transporting Films"

<u>Yusuke Shinmura</u>, Masayuki Kubo, Toshihiko Kaji, Masahiro Hirmaoto, International Conference on Solid State Devices and Materials, Kyoto, Japan, 2012/9/25-27.

 "Quantification of Junction Parameters of Doped Codeposited Organic Semiconductors"

<u>Yusuke Shinmura</u>, Masayuki Kubo, Toshihiko Kaji, Masahiro Hirmaoto, The 40th International Symposium on Compound Semiconductors, Kobe, Japan, 2013/5/20-21.

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- "Photo-electric Conversion Characteristics of C₆₀ single crystals"
 <u>Yusuke Shinmura</u>, Toshihiko Kaji, Kai Iketaki, Masahiro Hiramoto, The 71st The Japan Society of Applied Physics Autumn Meeting (15a-R-3), Nagasaki University, Nagasaki, Japan, 2010/9/13-17 (Sept. 15).
- "MoO₃-doping to Hole Transporting Materials and Photovoltaic Characteristics"
 <u>Yusuke Shinmura</u>, Masayuki Kubo, Toshihiko Kaji, Masahiro Hiramoto, The 72nd The Japan Society of Applied Physics Autumn Meeting (1a-L-10), Yamagata University, Yamagata, Japan, 2011/8/29-9/2 (Sept. 1).

- "pn-Homojunction Formation in Phthalocyanine Film by Doping"
 <u>Yusuke Shinmura</u>, Masayuki Kubo, Toshihiko Kaji, Masahiro Hiramoto, The 59th The Japan Society of Applied Physics Spring Meeting (16p-F7-1), Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan, 2012/3/15-18 (Mar. 16).
- 4) "Quantification of Carrier Concentration and Mobility for Doped Co-deposited Organic Semiconductor Films"

<u>Yusuke Shinmura</u>, Masayuki Kubo, Toshihiko Kaji, Masahiro Hiramoto, The 60th The Japan Society of Applied Physics Spring Meeting (27p-G18-8), Kanagawa Institute of Technology, Kanagawa, Japan, 2013/3/27-30 (Mar. 27).

- Sensitization of Ionization Rate by Doping for Co-deposited Films"
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- "Relationship between Cell Thickness and Electron Mobility"
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Poster Presentations

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 "Improved Photovoltaic Characteristics by MoO₃-doping to Thick Hole Transporting Films"

<u>Yusuke Shinmura</u>, Masayuki Kubo, Toshihiko Kaji, Masahiro Hirmaoto, Materials Research Society Spring Meeting, San Francisco, USA, 2012/4/10-15

2) "Sensitization of Doping in Organic Co-deposited Films"

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Domestic conferences (in Japanese)

1) "Sensitization of Ionization Rate of Doping in Organic Semiconductors"

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List of Books (in Japanese)

"Formation of pn-homojunction for single phthalocyanine film" Masahiro Hiramoto, <u>Yusuke Shinmura</u>, O plus E, Vol.35, No.4, 2013, pp.413-417 (Advanced Communication Media Co., Ltd.)

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