



# Konarka Technologies, Inc.

**DOE SAI Peer Review**

**April 17, 2007**

# Outline

- **Introduction**
- **Technology Overview**
- **SAI Program**
- **Summary**

# High Performance Photovoltaics

*A family of coatable, printable photoactive materials for high volume roll-to-roll manufacturing of large area modules*

## Three Related Approaches

- Dye Sensitized Titania (DSSC)
- Solid State Hole Carrier (ssPV)
- Organic Polymer Photovoltaics (OPV)

# Three Related Approaches for the Active Layer

## - Dye Sensitized Titania (DSSC)

titania nanoparticles (electron carrier) + sensitizing dye (light absorber) + liquid electrolyte (charge carrier)

## - Solid State Hole Carrier (ssHC)

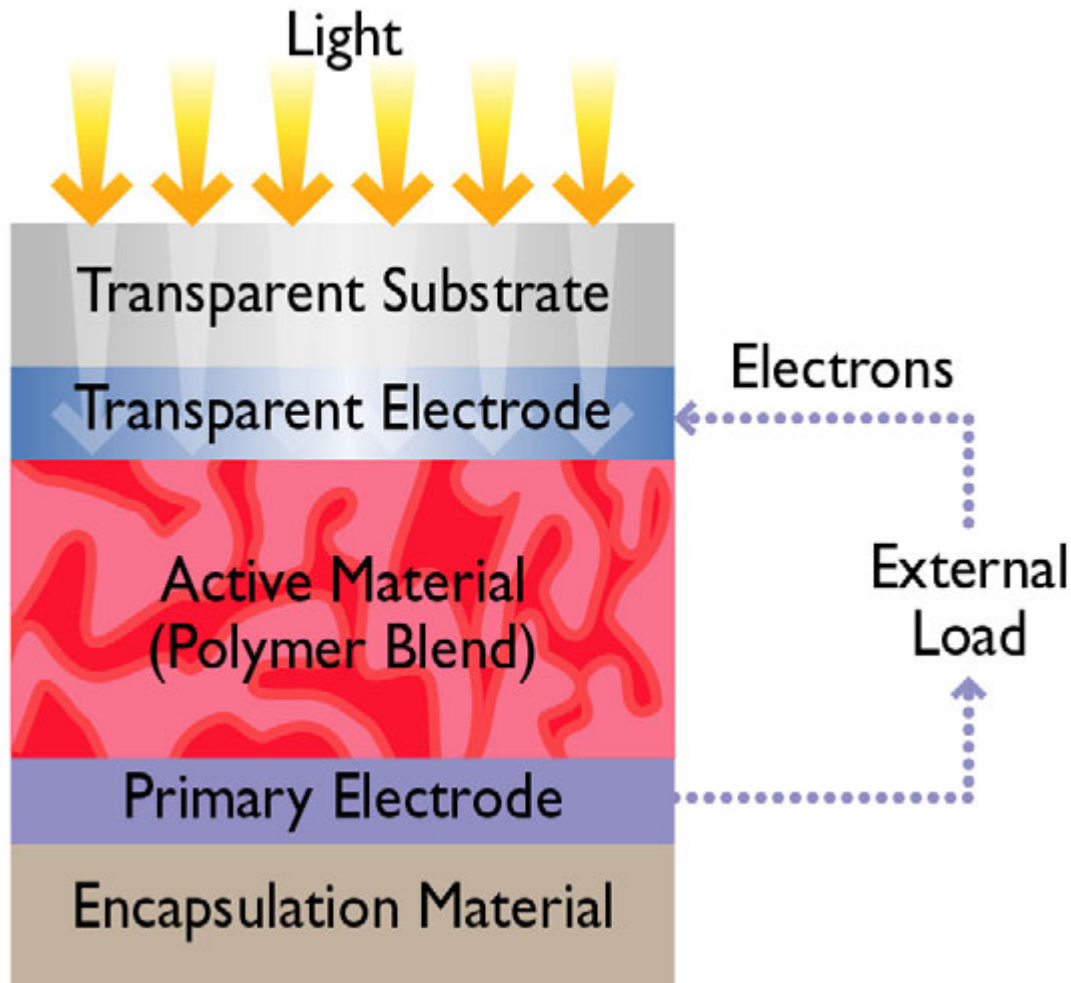
titania nanoparticles (electron carrier) + sensitizing dye (light absorber) + solid hole carrier (charge carrier)

## - Organic Polymer Photovoltaics (OPV)

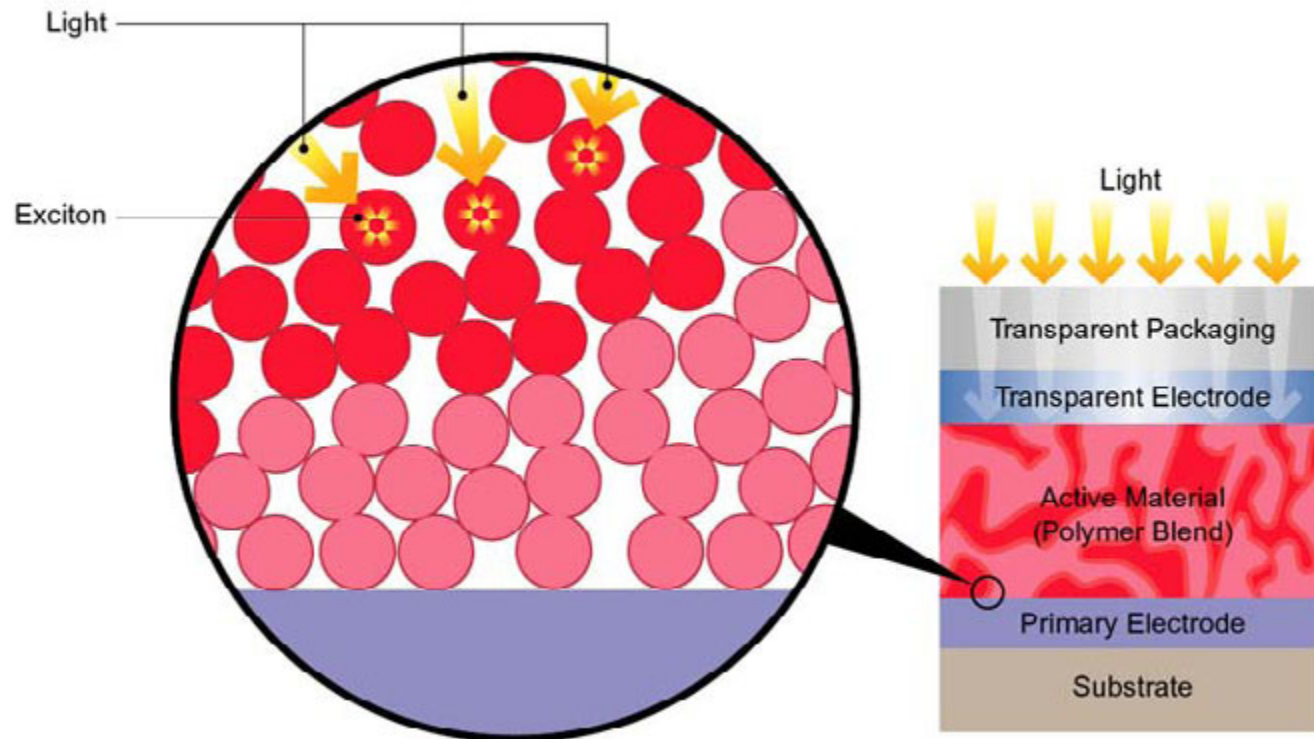
fullerene (electron carrier) + polymer (light absorber, charge carrier)

# **Technology Overview**

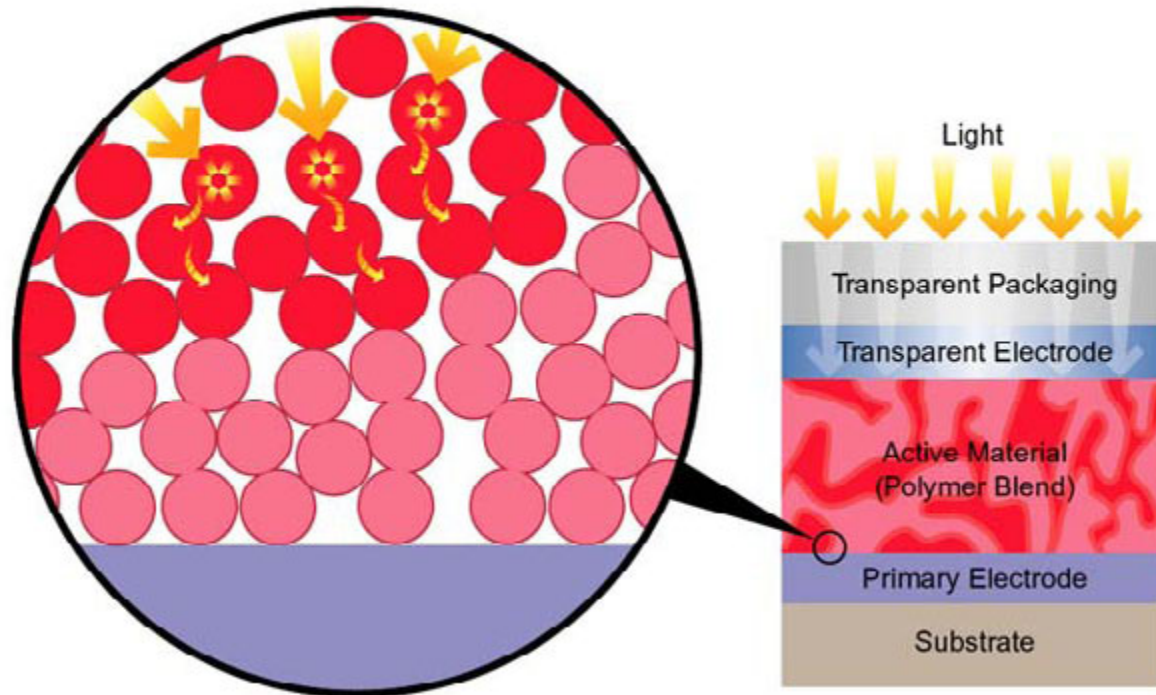
# OPV Cell Schematic



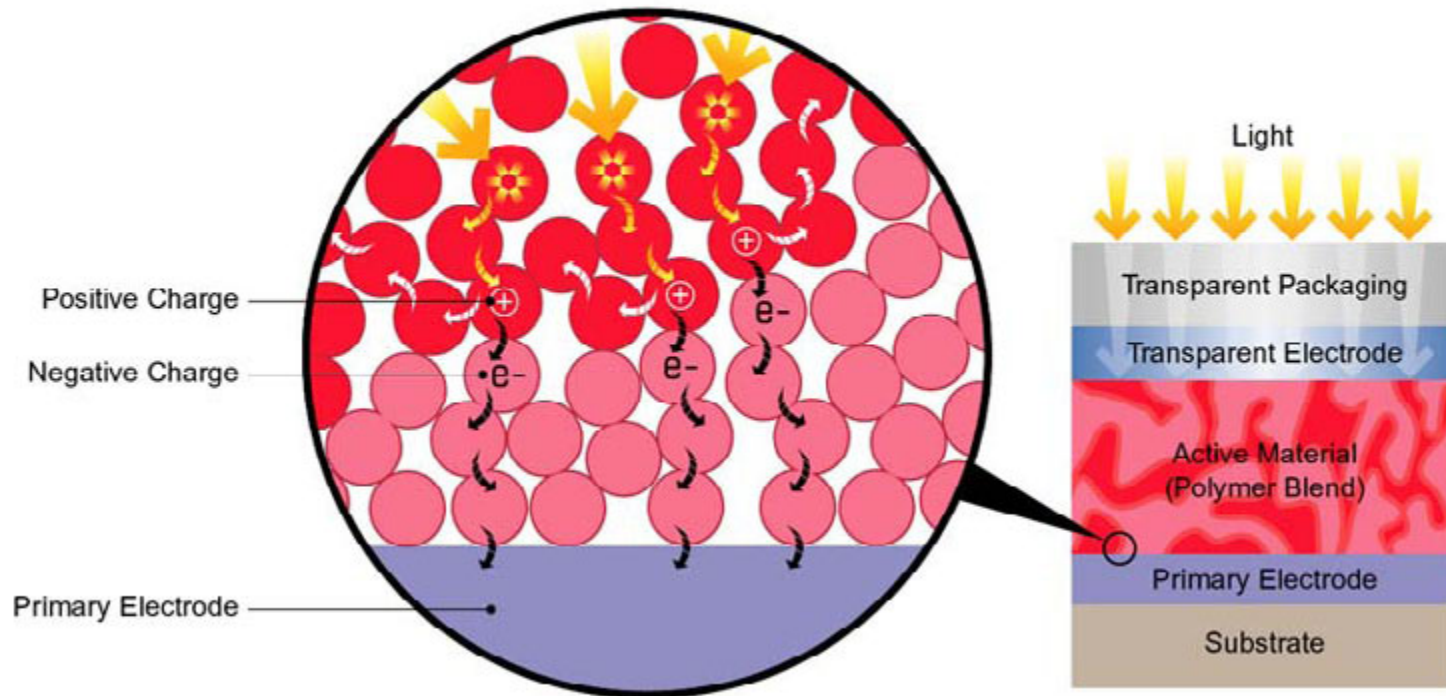
# Active Layer Schematic



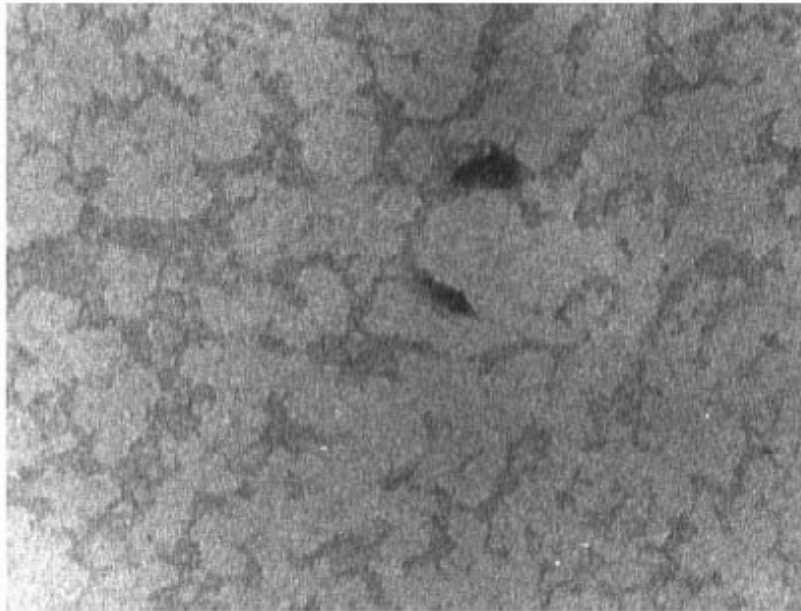
# Active Layer Schematic



# Active Layer Schematic



**Bulk Heterojunction Cell**  
**Active Layer**  
**Electron Micrograph**



200 nm

**Hole carrier polymer  
doped with  
electron carrier fullerene**

# Power Plastic™

Angle View

Transparent Substrate

Printed Transparent Electrode

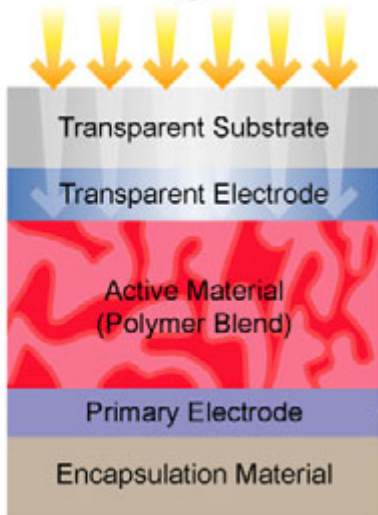
Printed Active Material

Primary Electrode

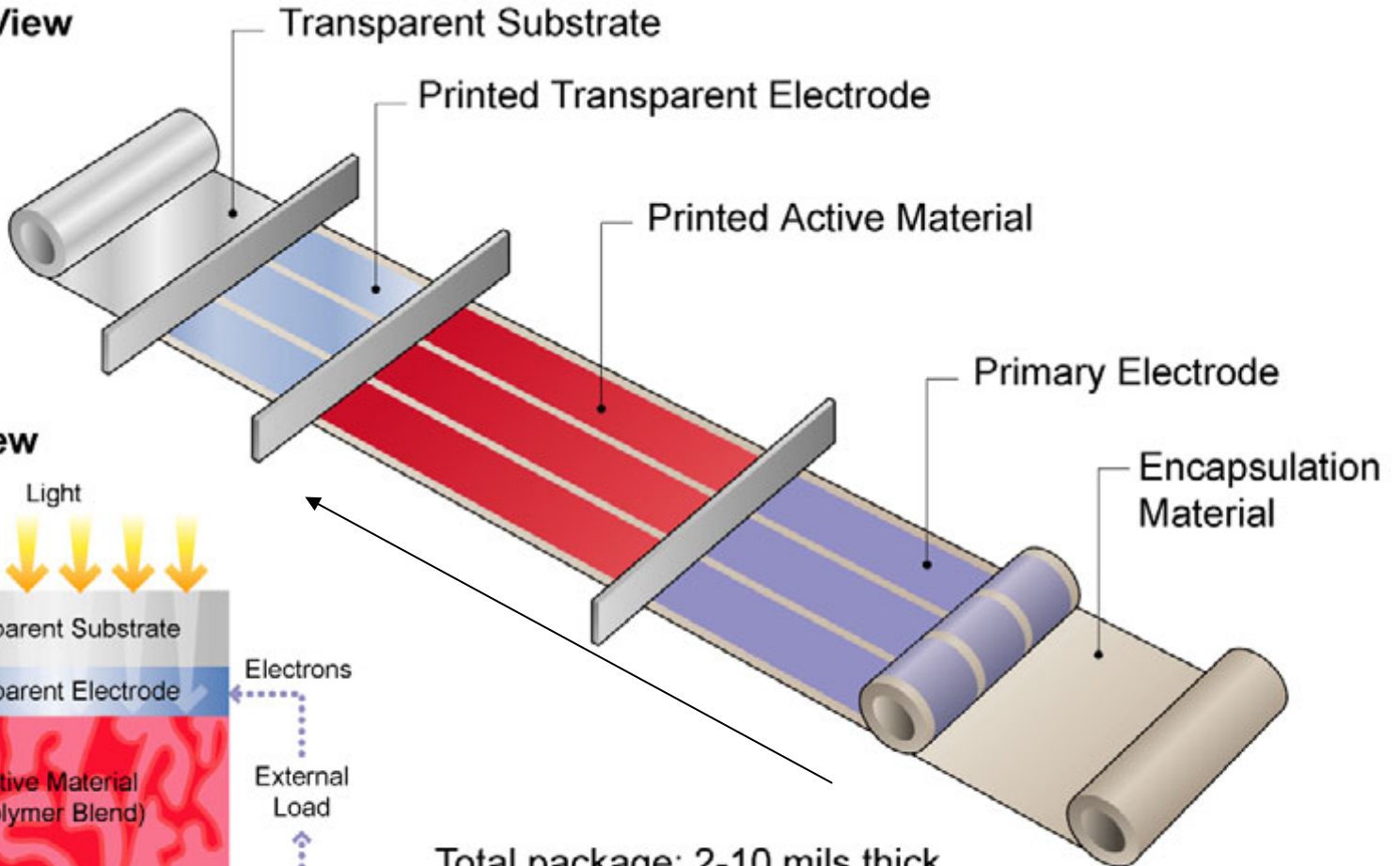
Encapsulation Material

End View

Light



Total package: 2-10 mils thick

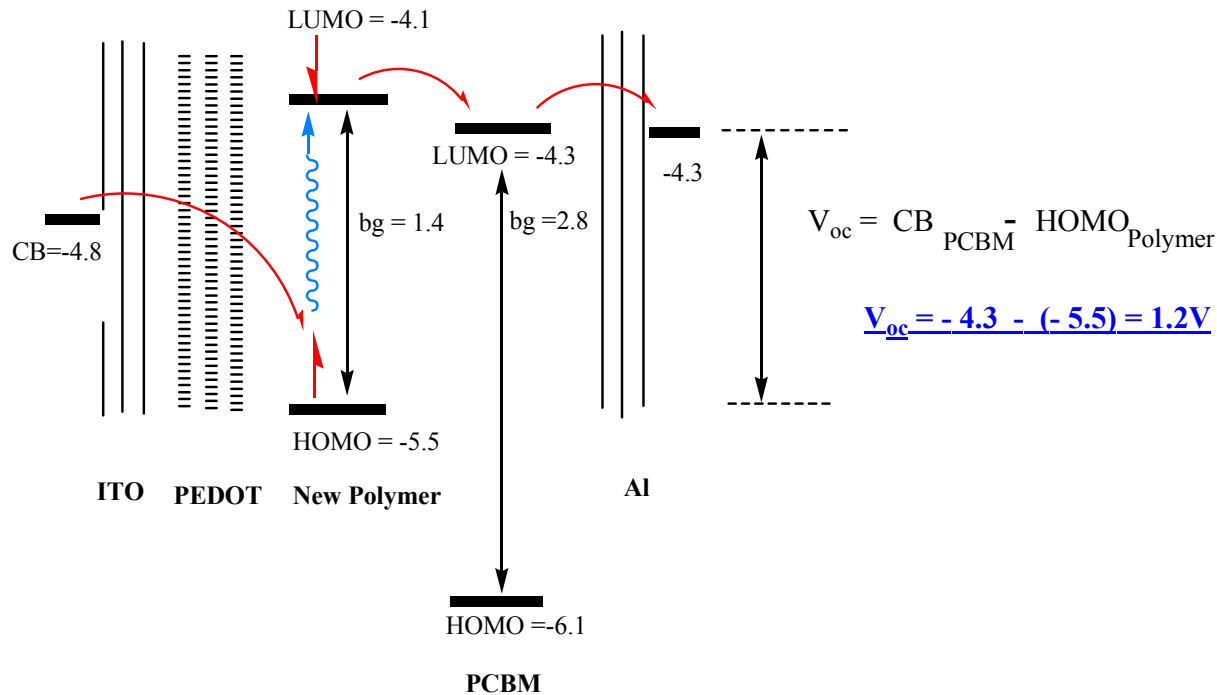


# Process Development Coater

## Lowell, MA



# Optimized Polymer/(PCBM) Cell - Voltage

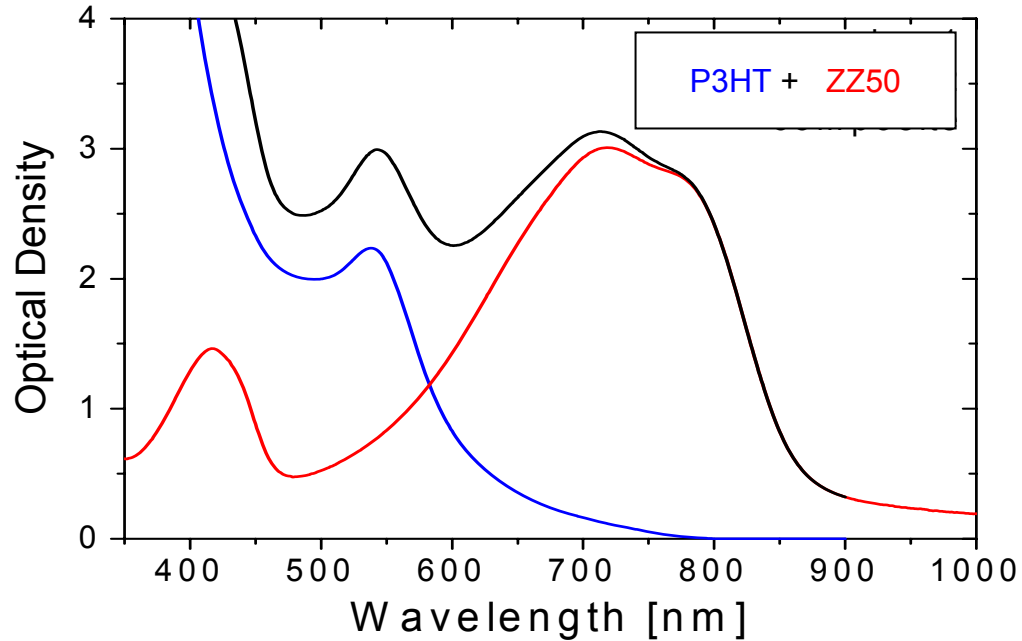


Note: for efficient electron transfer between states, the energy difference  $\geq 0.2$  eV.

Voltage ( $V_{oc}$ ) determined by the difference between the LUMO of PCBM and the HOMO of the polymer  
Polymer band gap = 1.4 eV (900 nm)

**Conclusion: high cell voltage attainable by optimizing alignment of polymer (donor) and fullerene (acceptor) energy levels**

# Two-Polymer Composite Cell Calculated Current Density



Photocurrent Generation Potential (EQE = 0.8) – 25.3 mA/cm<sup>2</sup>

# Cell Performance Estimates

## Polymer Cell (assumptions: EQE = 0.8, FF = 0.75)

Efficiency equation: 
$$\eta = \frac{V_{oc} I_{sc} FF}{P_{Light}}$$

## Composite

$$I_{sc} = 25.3 \text{ mA/cm}^2; V_{oc} = 1.2 \text{ V} \rightarrow 0.9$$

(dark current correction to voltage)

**Efficiency :  $\eta = 17\%$       TARGET:  $>7\%$**

## Tandem (in-series)

$$I_{sc} = 18 - 24; V_{oc} = 1.8 \text{ V}$$

(includes 2x voltage with dark current correction)

**Efficiency :  $\eta = 24 - 32\%$       TARGET  $> 10\%$**

# **Solar America Initiative** **Program**

# **Solar America Initiative**

## **Objectives**

### **1] Improve Stability**

**Task: develop more effective water and oxygen barriers**

**Approach: combine best commercial barriers with barrier adhesives**

### **2] Improve Performance**

**Task: replace ITO with metal grid**

**Approach: develop a process for printing a metal grid**

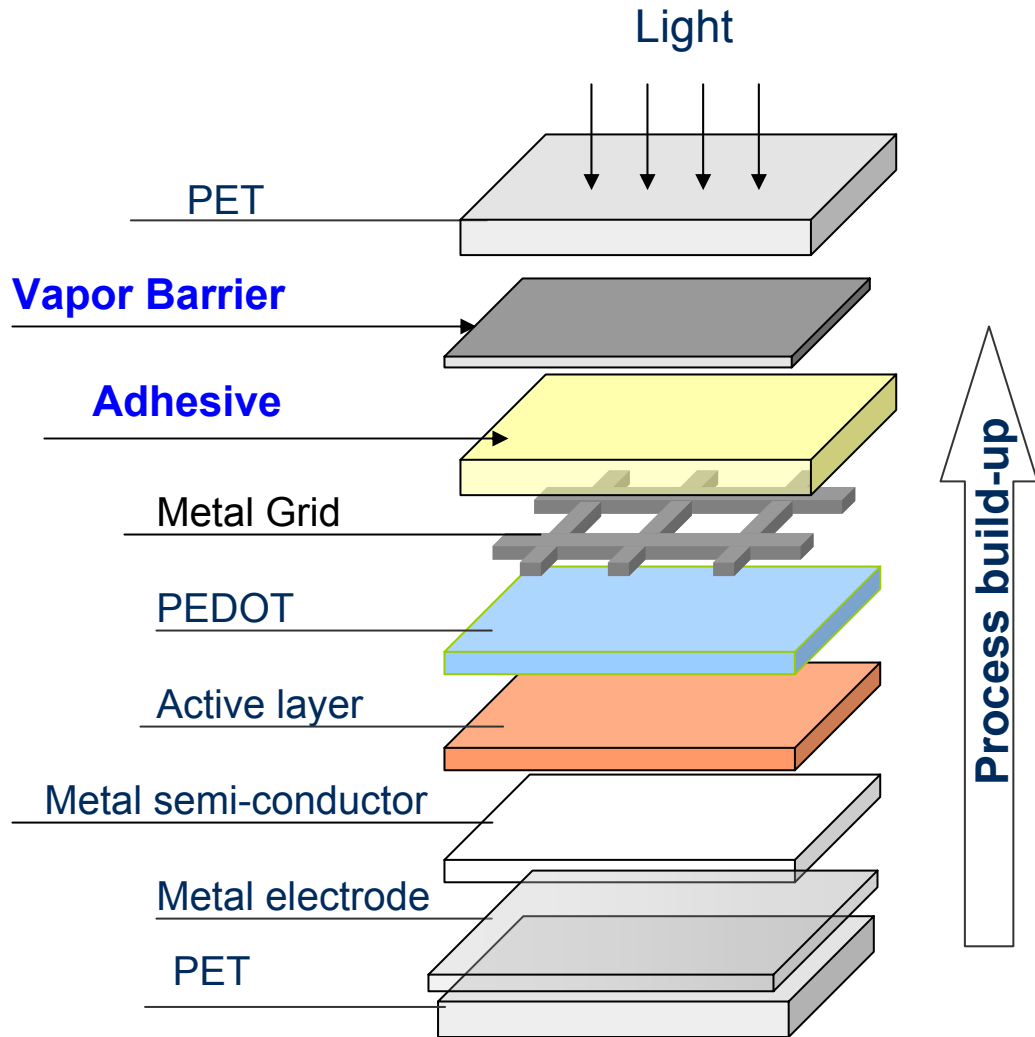
### **3] Improve Performance**

**Task: replace fullerene with high performance electron carriers**

**Approach: create a new class of polymers or small molecules**

# PV Cell Architecture

## Water/Oxygen Vapor Barriers



# Water/Oxygen Vapor Barriers

## Test Conditions

85°C, ambient  
85°C, 1 sun  
light soaking; 1.3suns/ 40°C  
65°C/85%RH

## Pass Criterion:

<20% decrease in efficiency @ 1000 hrs.

## Results:

Glass encapsulated: passes all tests (1000hrs, <5% eff. loss)

### Flexible substrates:

85°C, ambient – passes 500hrs (<10% eff. loss)  
85°C, 1 sun – passes 500 hrs (<10% eff. loss)  
light soaking; 1.3suns/ 40°C – passes 500 hrs (<10% eff. loss)  
65°C/85%RH – passes 250hrs.

## Commercial Barriers:

Target WVTR =  $10^{-3}$ g/m<sup>2</sup>/day @ 65°C/85%RH

Available :  $10^{-2}$ - $10^{-5}$ g/m<sup>2</sup>/day @ 38°C/85%RH

$10^{-2}$ g/m<sup>2</sup>/day @ 65°C/85%RH

Cost : <<\$1/m<sup>2</sup>

## Commercial Adhesives:

Target WVTR =  $10^{-3}$ g/mm<sup>2</sup>/day @ 65°C/85%RH

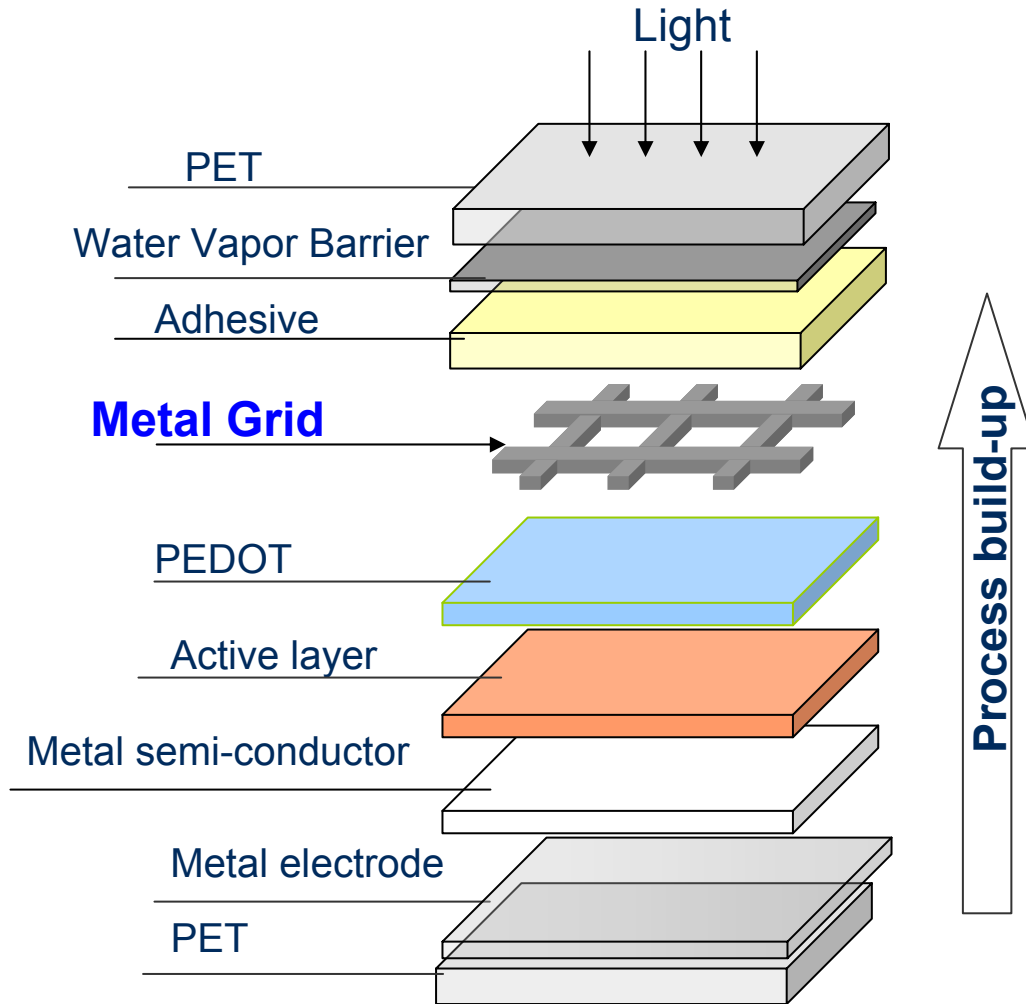
Available : > 1g/m<sup>2</sup>/day @ 65°C/85%RH

## Strategy:

- Find better commercial barrier substrates
- Develop adhesives with fillers to achieve WVTR equal to barrier substrates

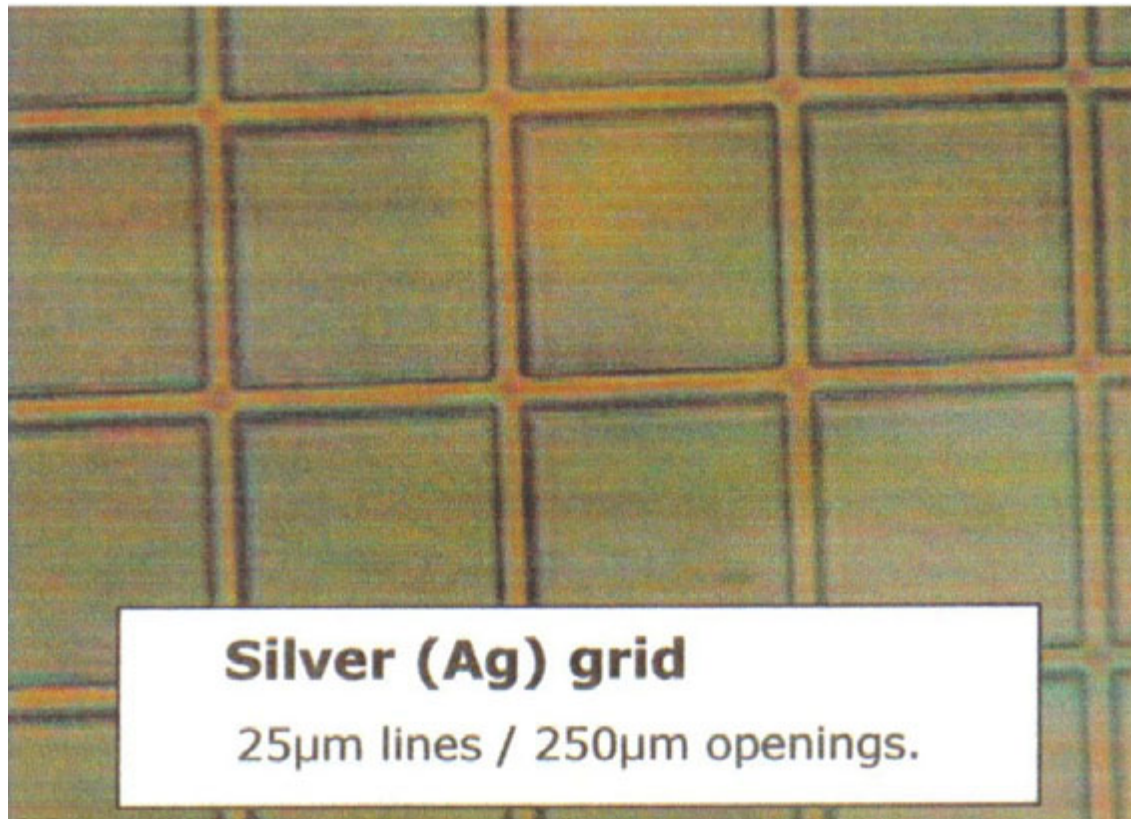
# PV Cell Architecture

## Metal Grid



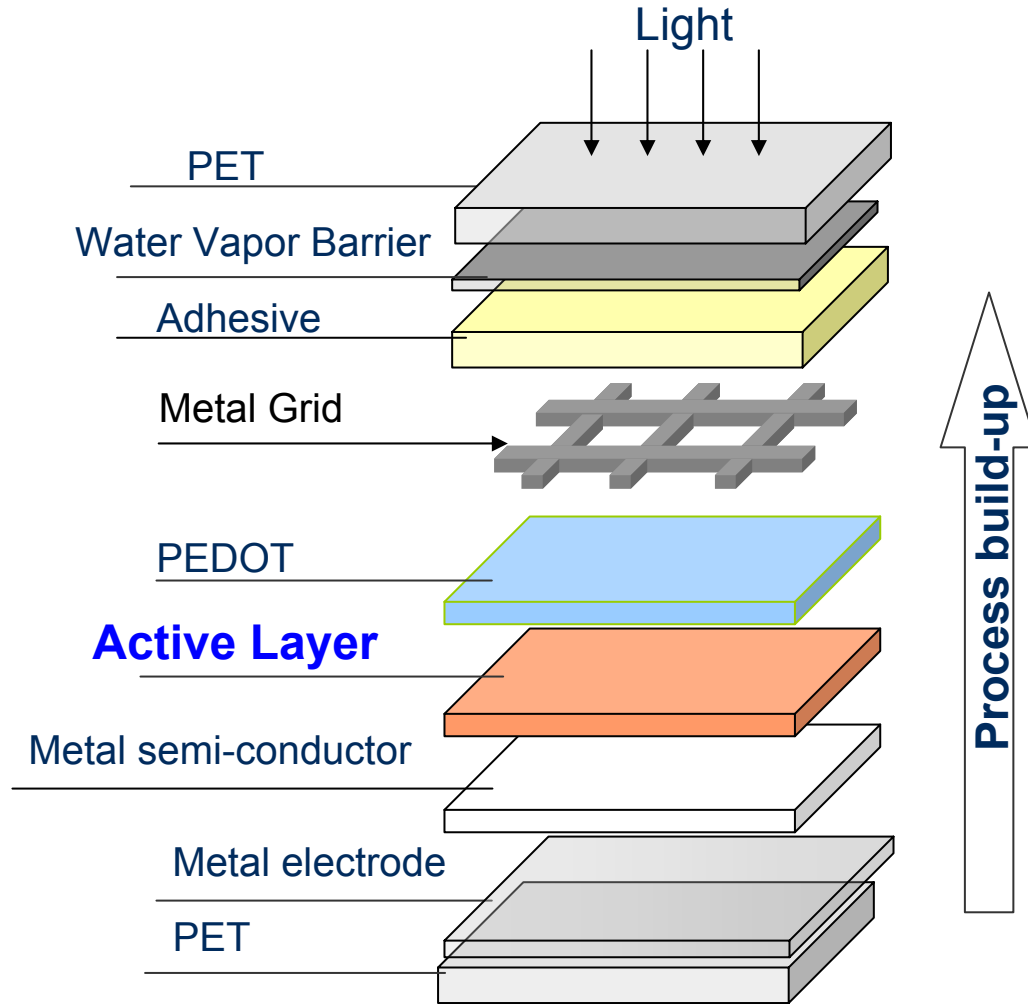
# Transparent Conductive Electrode

Metal Grid: 90%T @ 3ohms/sq vs. ITO ~75%T @ 8ohms/sq  
<\$10/m<sup>2</sup> vs. ~\$35 - \$40/m<sup>2</sup>

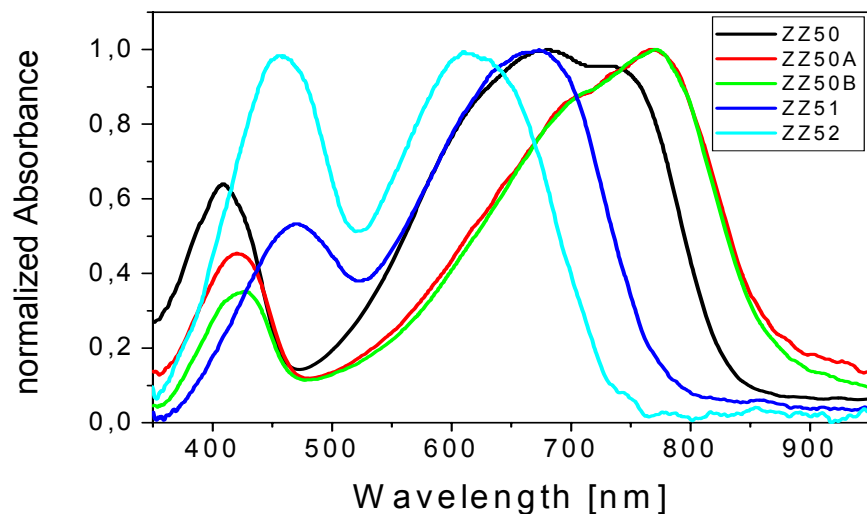


# PV Cell Architecture

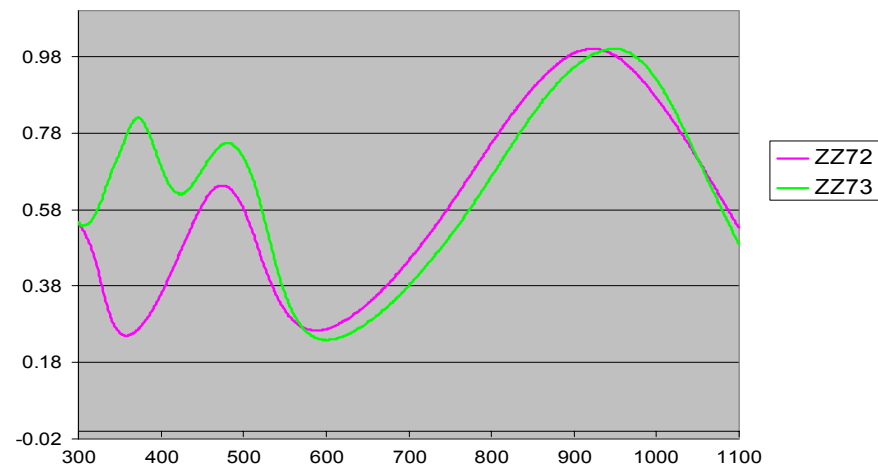
## Active Layer



# Absorption Spectra of p-Type Polymers



Films



**Developed new families of polymeric hole carriers**

**Band gap = 0.9 – 2.0eV**

**HOMO = - 4.9 to -5.5eV**

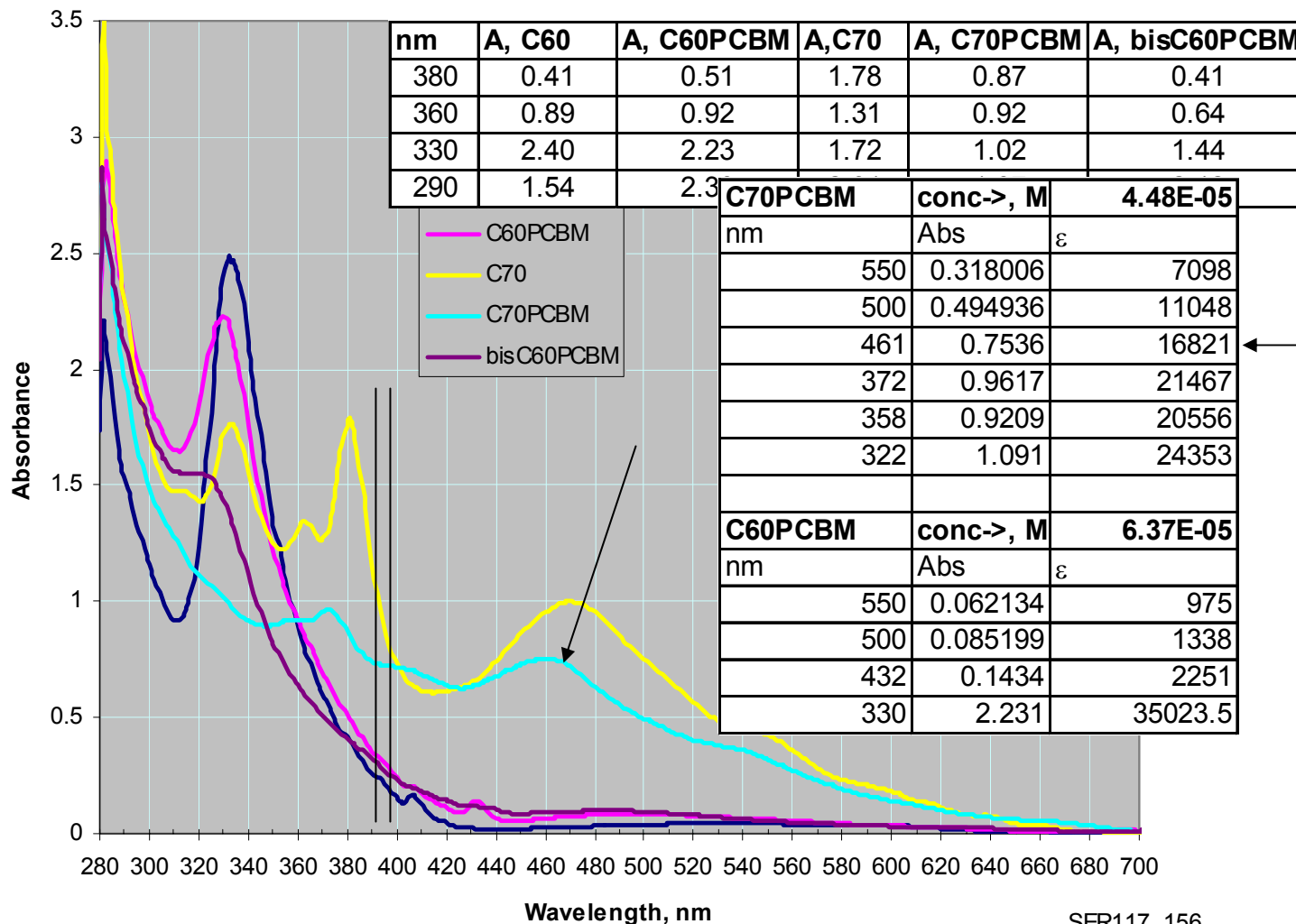
**LUMO = - 3.8 to -4.0eV**

**Electron mobility ~  $10^{-2}$  -  $10^{-3}$ cm<sup>2</sup>/Vs**

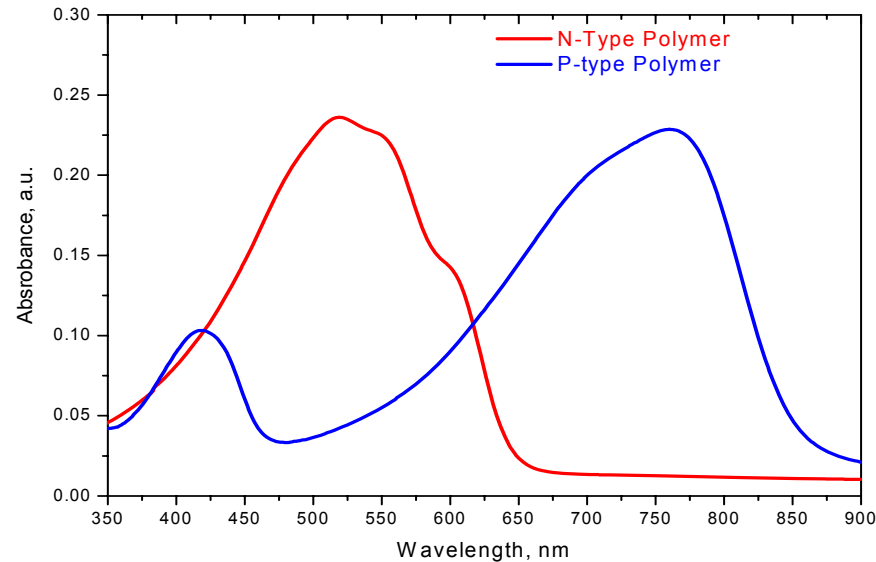
# n-Type Carriers Fullerene Derivatives

UV-Vis Spectra of PCBM Standards

1:1 Tol/AN



# Combination of n-Type Carriers and p-Type Carriers



**Target properties to compliment the hole carrier:**

- blue-green absorption
- absorptivity  $\sim 100K$
- electron mobility ( $\mu_e$ )  $\sim 10^{-2} \text{cm}^2/\text{Vs}$
- HOMO  $\sim -6.5\text{eV}$
- LUMO  $\sim -4.3\text{eV}$

# Summary

Developments have clarified the directions required that will enable Konarka to manufacture high performance, light weight solar modules at low cost.

## 2010 Targets

Thickness = 0.3mm (current)

Weight = 450g/m<sup>2</sup> (current)

**Efficiency : 7%**

Power to weight ratio: >150mW/g

Power/area = 70mW/m<sup>2</sup>

**Stability : 10 year roof top**

**Module Cost : <\$1/kWh and <\$1/Wp**