

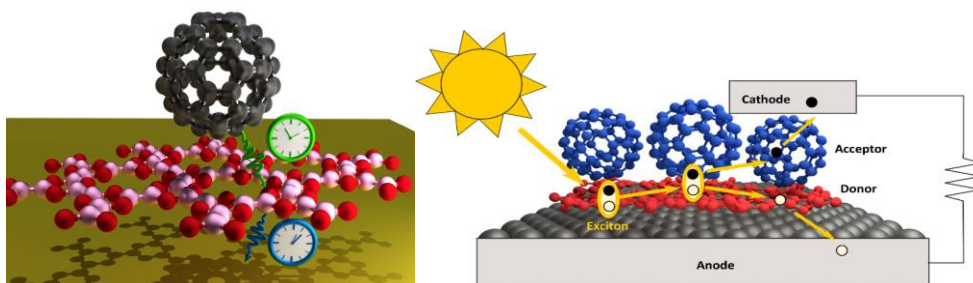
Research Topic: Charge Dynamics in Complex 2D Etherostructures

Supervision:

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There is a dramatic raise in the scientific and technological interest for new complex 2D materials that extend substantially the graphene family (2D dichalcogenides, phosphorene, hexagonal boron nitride hBN etc), their combination in stacked heterostructures, 2D Covalent Organic Frameworks (COF) and more complex hybrid materials that incorporate also organic molecules. In devices based on these materials, interface processes are ubiquitous and critical for the efficiency much more than when traditional materials are employed. Furthermore the interposition of a 2D templating architecture between electrodes and the organic layers represents a powerful tool for the improvement of the overall device performances. Therefore, there is an increasing interest in the synthesis and characterization of possible 2D templates able to tailor the electronic properties of complex Metal/Template/Organic (MTO) architectures. Possible templates we are interested in, range from functionalized 2D materials, to Covalent Organic Frameworks, to self-assembled monolayers of organic molecules. Major efforts have been made in the last few years to study the morphology of these systems, while their electronic properties are in most cases only partially described. There is a need therefore for a deeper understanding and control of processes like charge transfer at interfaces between the different components in complex materials and in MTO architectures. Charge injection across molecular junctions can occur at the femto- to nanosecond time scales. We combine different time resolved spectroscopic techniques (pump-probe spectroscopy using femto laser or Free Electron Lasers, X-ray Resonant Photoemission spectroscopy) to investigate the electronic properties in MTO hetero-structures, revealing the charge dynamics in both directions (to/from the molecule) at these complex interfaces.

The research program is part of the recently financed project MIUR PRIN: FERMAT Fast ElectRon dynamics in novel hybrid organic-2D MATerials and will be carried out in collaboration with various international research groups based in USA (Columbia University), Slovenia etc.

The student will have access to newly installed experimental apparatuses for Time resolved spectroscopies and Synchrotron radiation experiments.

