Site-selective measurement of coupled spin pairs in an organic semiconductor Alexei Chepelianski (LPS)

From organic electronics to biological systems, understanding the role of intermolecular interactions between spin pairs is a key challenge. We showed that such pairs can be selectively addressed using a combination of experiments at high magnetic fields (up to 60 Tesla) and optical spectroscopy. We demonstrated this for bound pairs of spin-triplet excitons formed by singlet fission, but our approach has direct applicability to a wide range of synthetic and biological systems. To address the triplet pairs in a site-sensitive way, we tuned the magnetic field to match the site dependent exchange energy of the pair, creating a level crossing resonance between optically bright singlet (S=0) and dark triplet, quintet (S=1,2) configurations. This induces narrow holes in a broad optical emission spectrum, uncovering exchange-specific luminescence. We identified three distinct triplet-pair sites, with exchange couplings varying over an order of magnitude (0.3-5 meV), each with its own luminescence spectrum, coexisting in a single material. Our results reveal how site-selectivity can be achieved for organic spin pairs in a broad optical spin pairs.



Photoluminescence in TIPS-tetracene at 2K as function of the magnetic field. Several resonancees with characteristic magnetic fields from 3 to 30 Tesla are seen which correspond to crossing between triplet/quintet and singlet states.

Sam L. Bayliss, Leah R. Weiss, Anatol Mitioglu, Krzysztof Galkowski, Zhuo Yang, Kamila Yunusova, Alessandro Surrente, Karl J. Thorley, Jan Behrends, Robert Bittl, John E. Anthony, Akshay Rao, Richard H. Friend, Paulina Plochocka, Peter C. M. Christianen, Neil C. Greenham, Alexei D. Chepelianskii, PNAS May 15, 2018 115 (20) 5077-5082

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