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Excited state interaction in P-OLEDs – implications for efficiency and lifetime

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10% EQE deep blue with long lifetime C|D|T

Efficiency

Lifetime

Strategies

Current
Performance

Excited state interaction in POLEDs

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Efficiency

Lifetime

Strategies

Current
Performance

Expected EQE of fluorescent OLED

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'charge balance'

'S:T ratio'

'PLQE'

'outcoupling'

$$EQE = \eta_{\text{exciton formation}} \times \eta_{\text{singlet formation}} \times \eta_{\text{photon emission}} \times \eta_{\text{photon escape}}$$

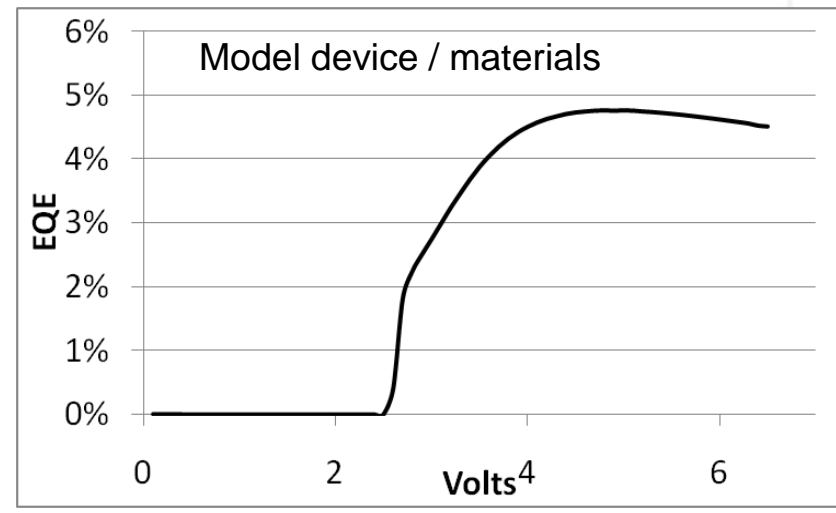
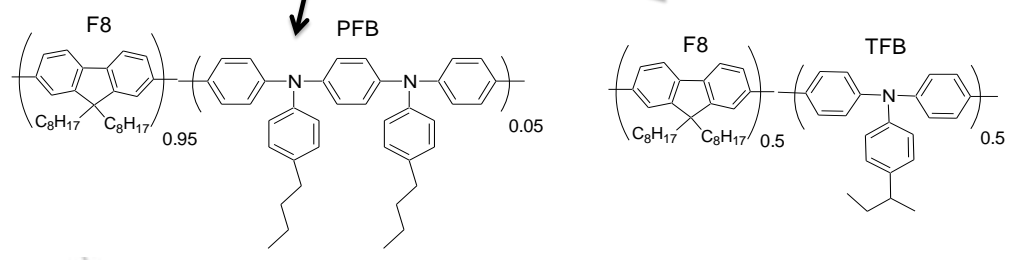
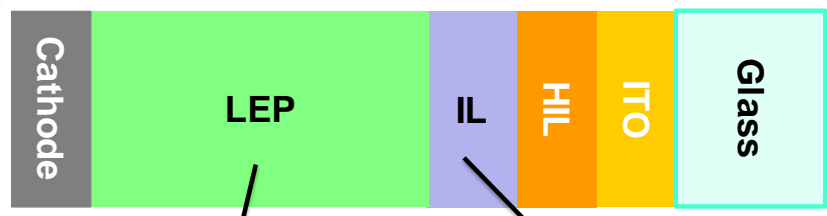
100%

25%

70%

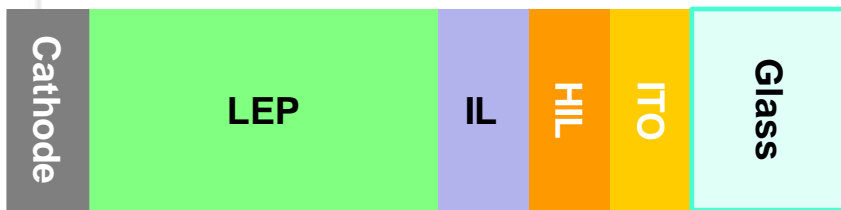
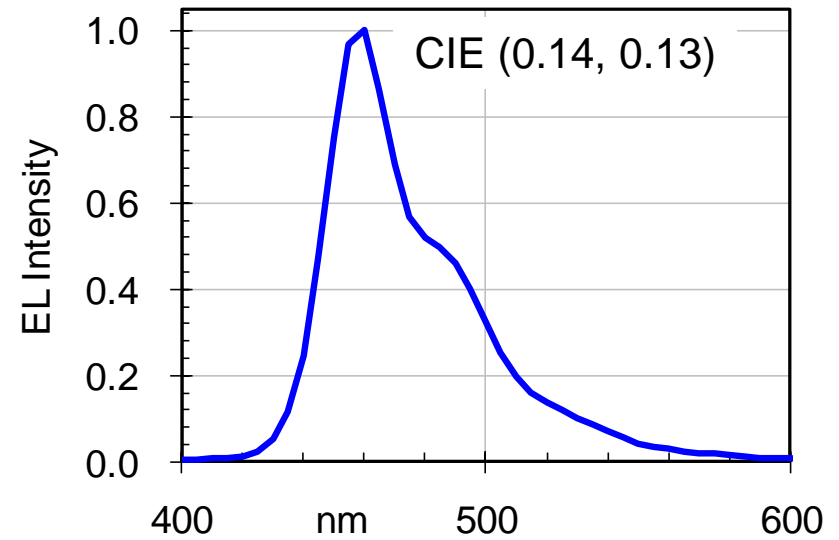
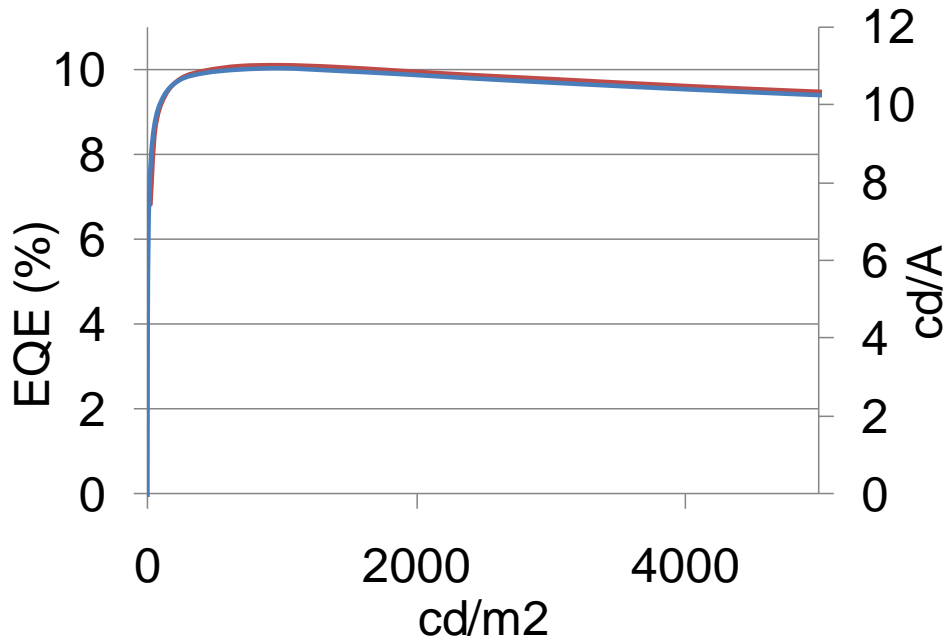
30%

~ 5%



10% EQE at CIEy=0.13

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How can we explain 10% EQE?

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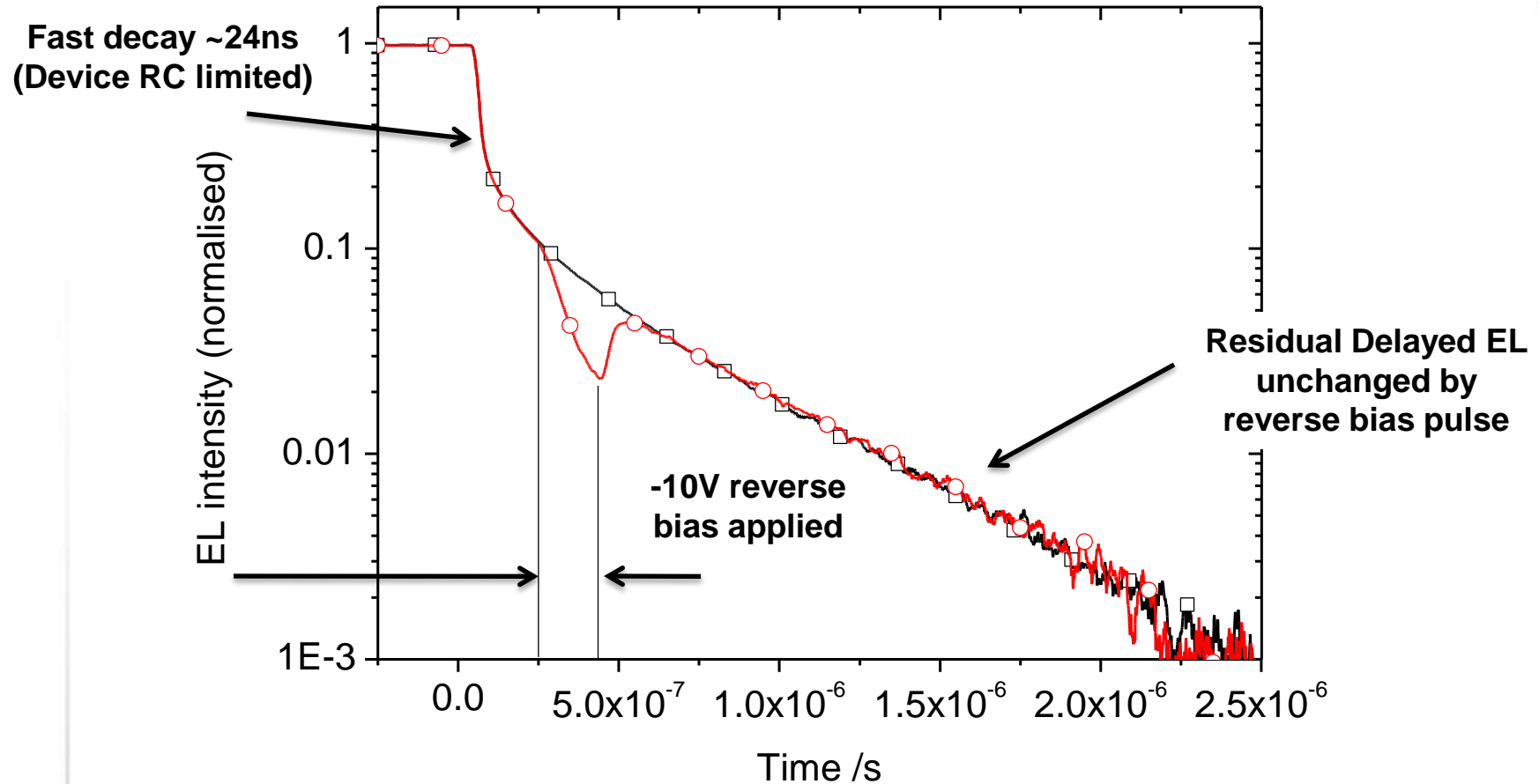
	'charge balance'	'Singlet Yield'	'PLQE'	'outcoupling'	
EQE =	$\eta_{\text{exciton formation}}$	$\times \eta_{\text{singlet formation}}$	$\times \eta_{\text{photon emission}}$	$\times \eta_{\text{photon escape}}$	
	100%	25%	70%	30%	~ 5%

↓
Most likely cause
of discrepancy

- S:T ratio > 25% for polymers?
- Triplet harvesting via TTA?

Delayed Electroluminescence

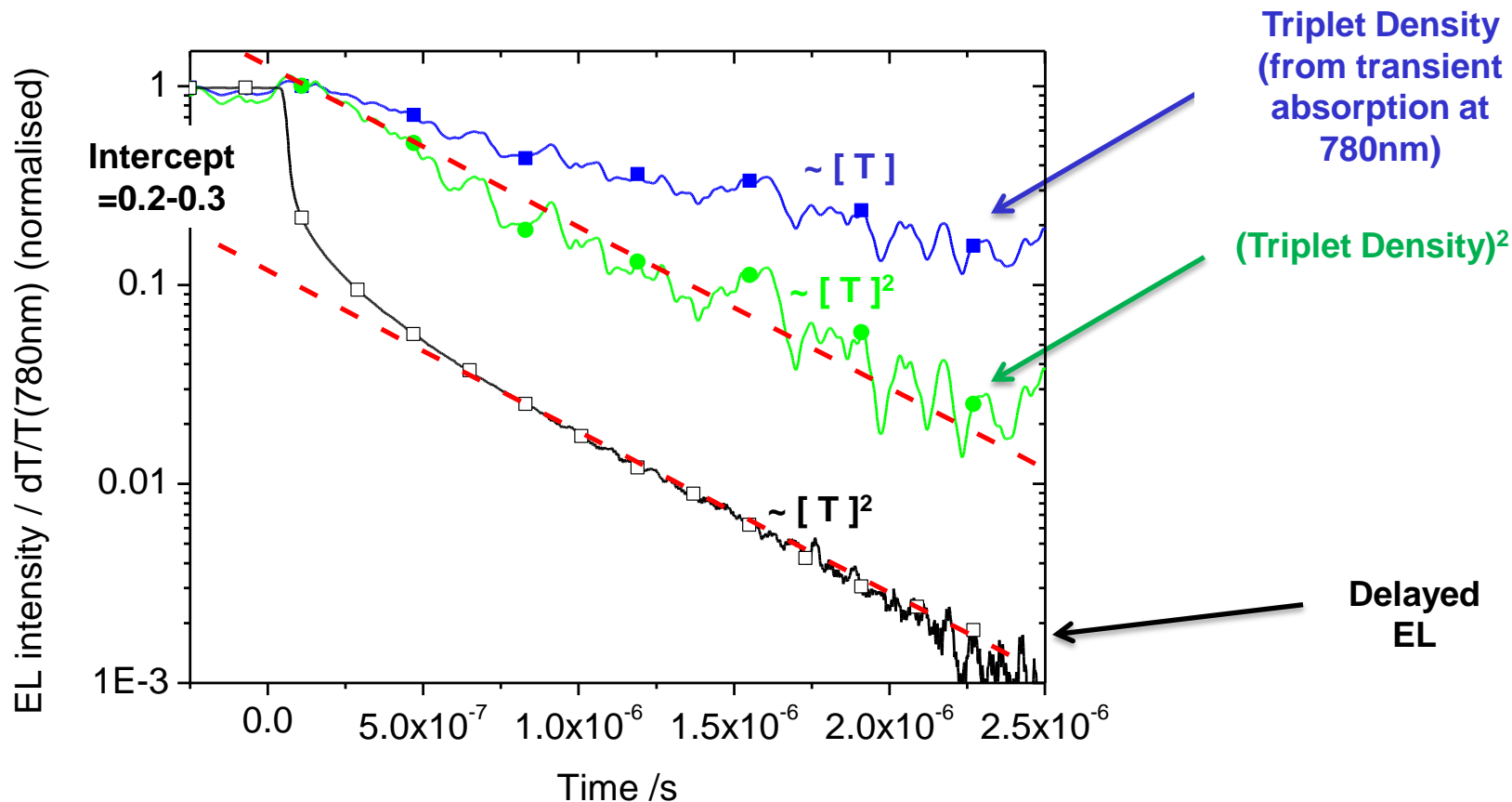
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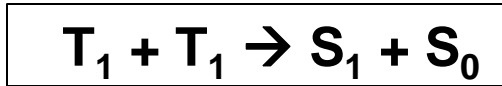
Delayed fluorescence does not originate from trapped charges

Triplet Triplet Annihilation (TTA)

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- Origin of delayed fluorescence is TTA :
- Triplets make up 20-30% of efficiency



Including TTA in EQE expression

'charge balance' 'Singlet+Triplet Yield' 'PLQE' 'outcoupling'

$$\text{EQE} = \eta_{\text{exciton formation}} \times \eta_{\text{singlet formation}} \times \eta_{\text{photon emission}} \times \eta_{\text{photon escape}}$$

100% 50% 70% 30% ~10%

$$\Phi_{s:t} + (1 - \Phi_{s:t}) \chi_t$$

$\Phi_{s:t}$ = S:T ratio →

χ_t = triplet yield →

2 strategies for improving EQE in fluorescent systems

Review

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- **10% EQE @ $CIE_y=0.13$ demonstrated**
- **TTA process is key to achieving this EQE**

Excited state interaction in POLEDs

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Efficiency

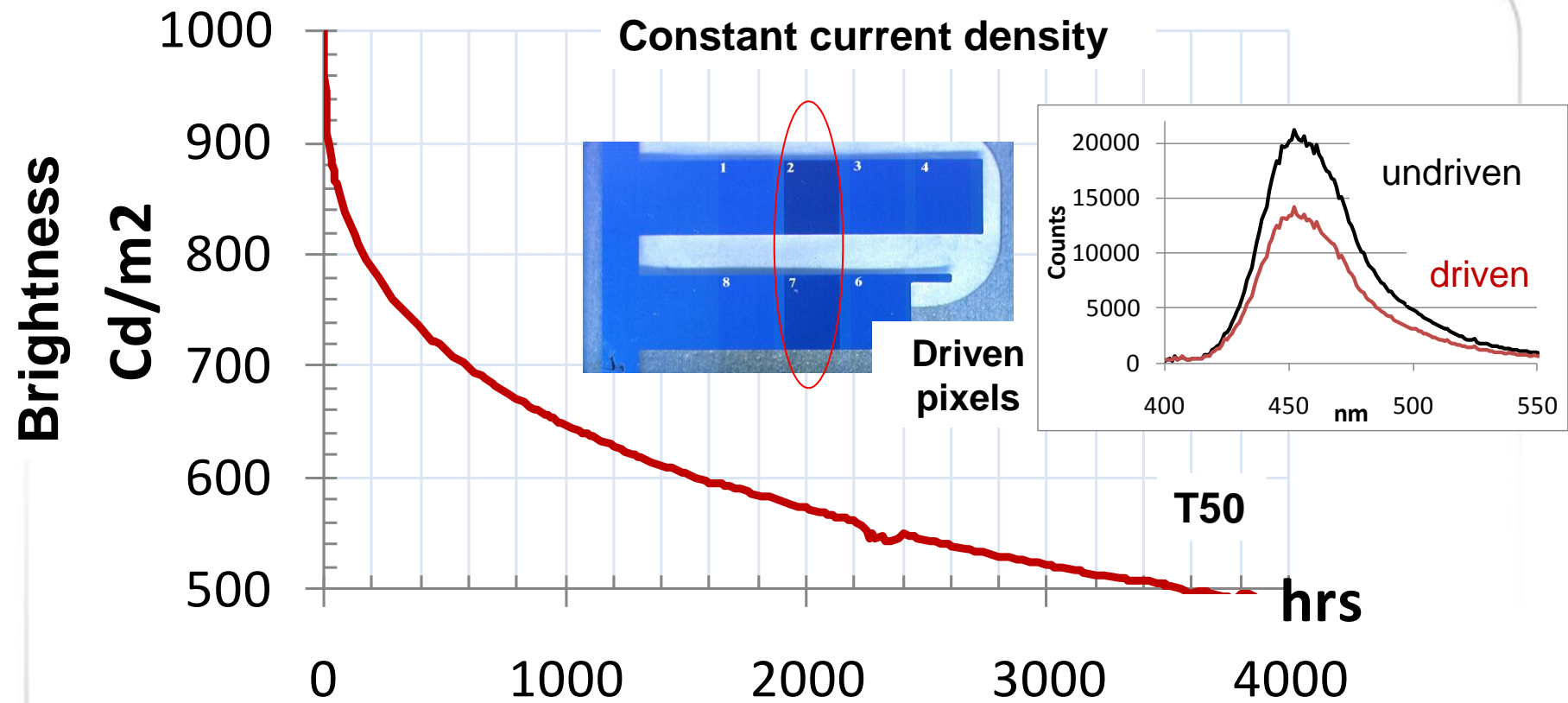
Lifetime

Strategies

Current
Performance

Lifetime testing of P-OLED devices

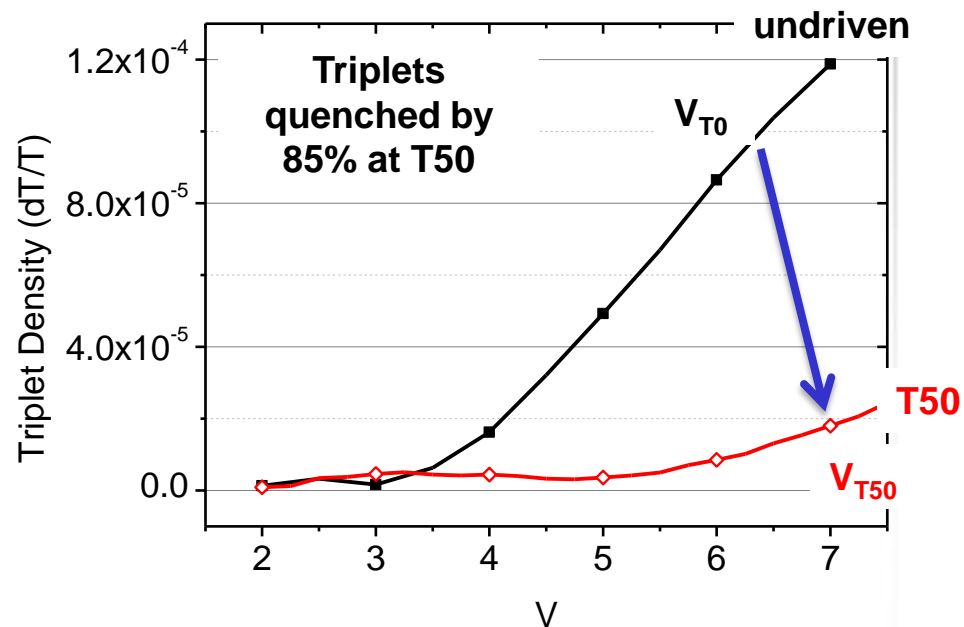
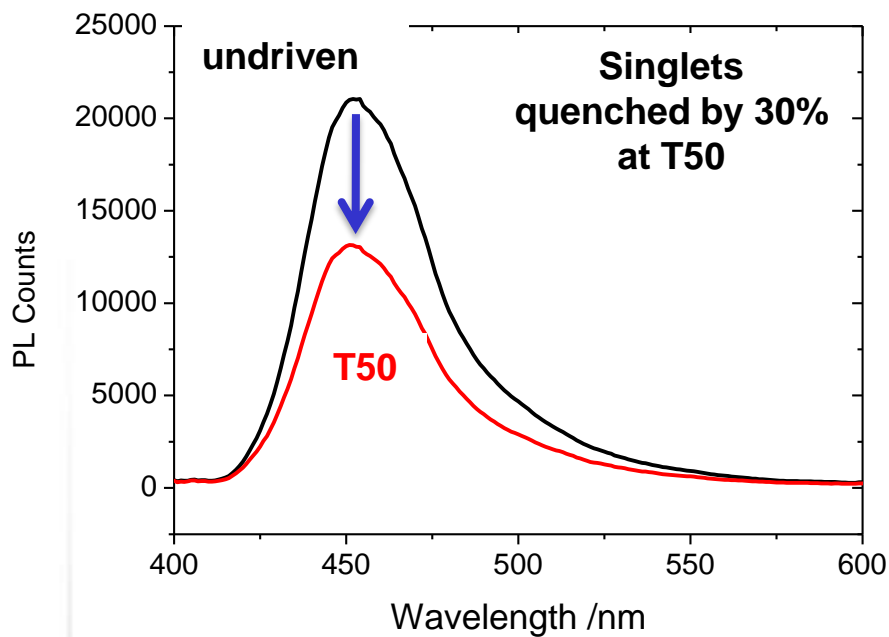
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- PL efficiency drop is a major cause of efficiency loss
- How stable is the TTA contribution?

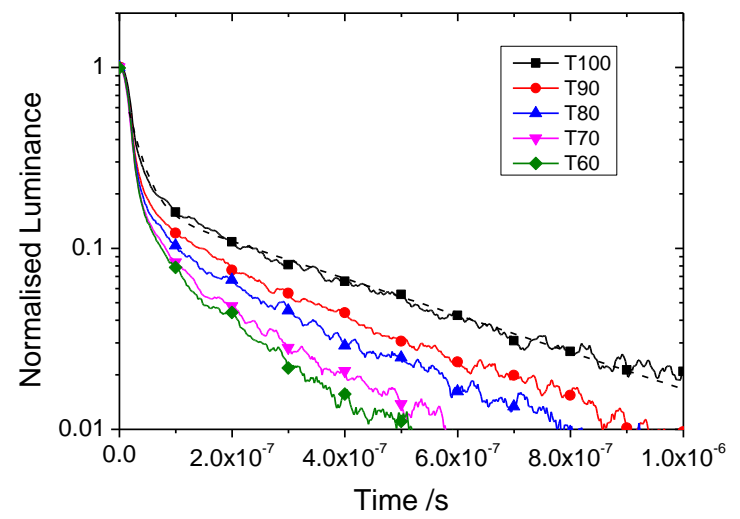
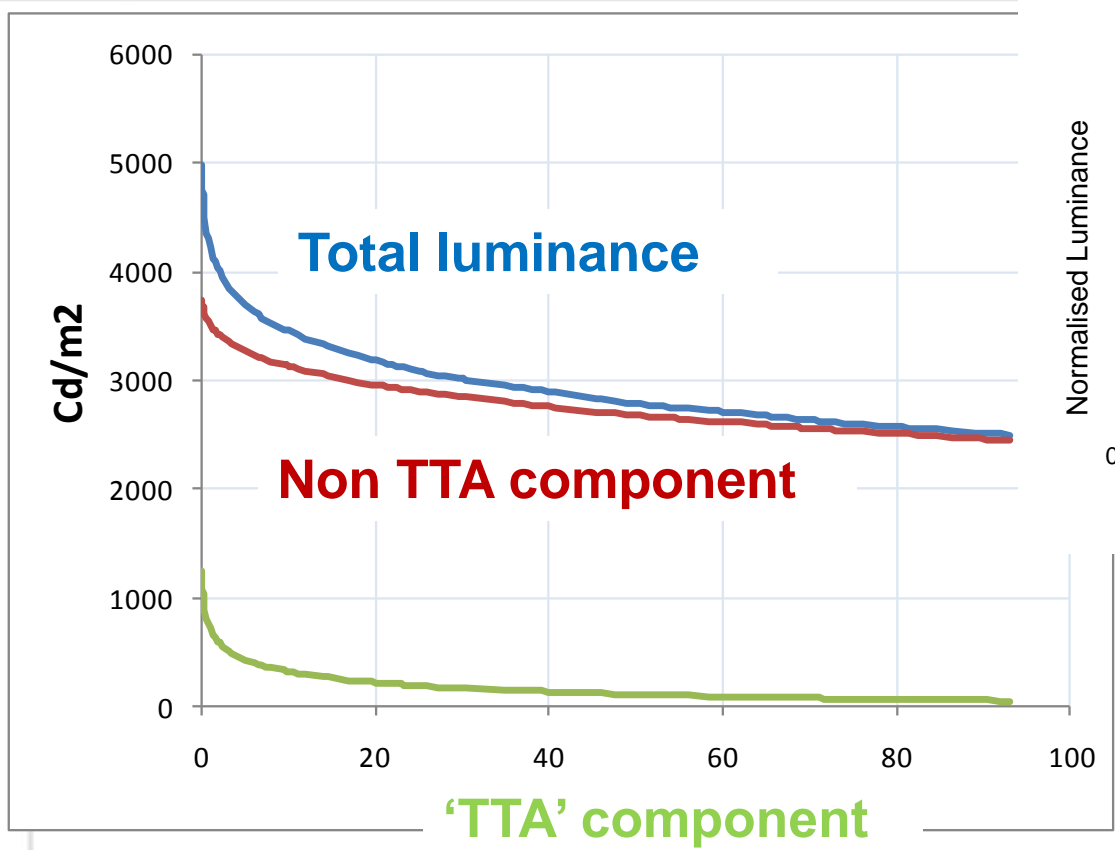
Driving Effect on Triplet Density

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- Triplets are quenched very effectively in a driven device

TTA component is unstable



- TTA contribution can limit lifetime and give rapid initial decay

Review

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- **10% EQE @ $CIE_y=0.13$ demonstrated**
- **TTA process key to achieving this EQE**
- **TTA contribution can be relatively unstable**

Excited state interaction in POLEDs

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Efficiency

Lifetime

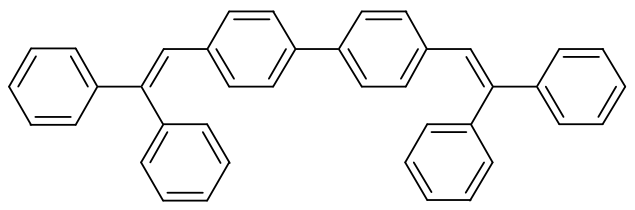
Strategies

Current
Performance

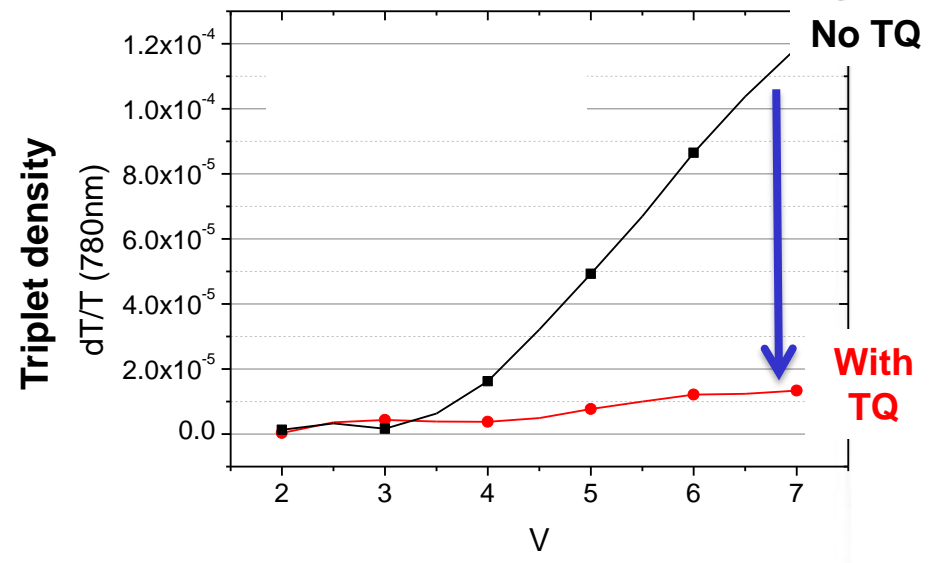
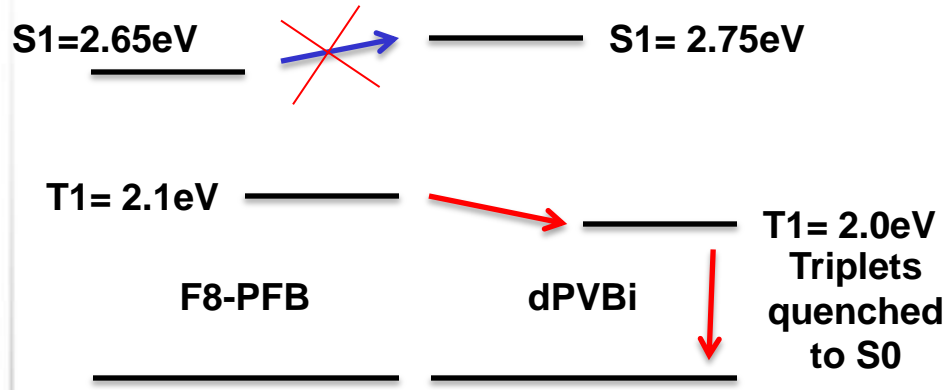
Strategy 1 : Remove triplets

Triplet Quenching unit

- Efficiently removes triplets from system

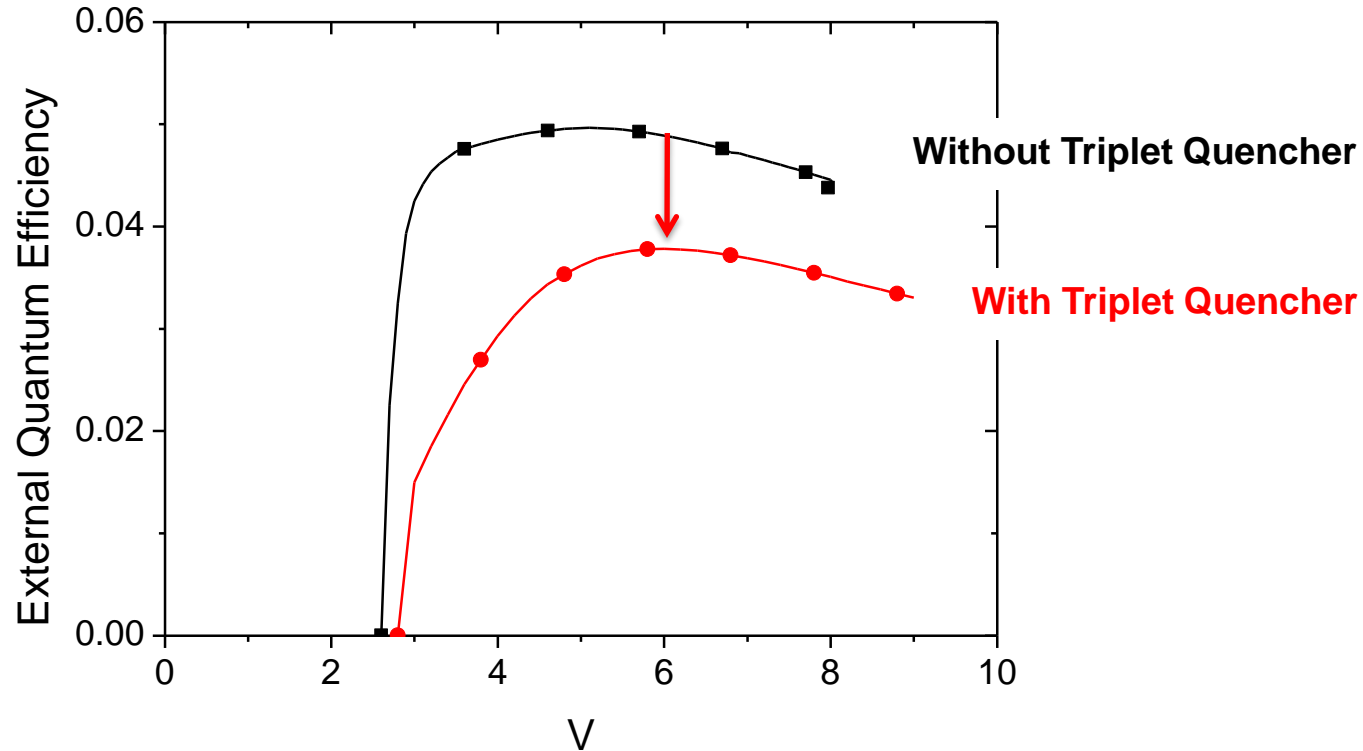


dPVBi (1% mol ratio)



Strategy 1 : Remove triplets

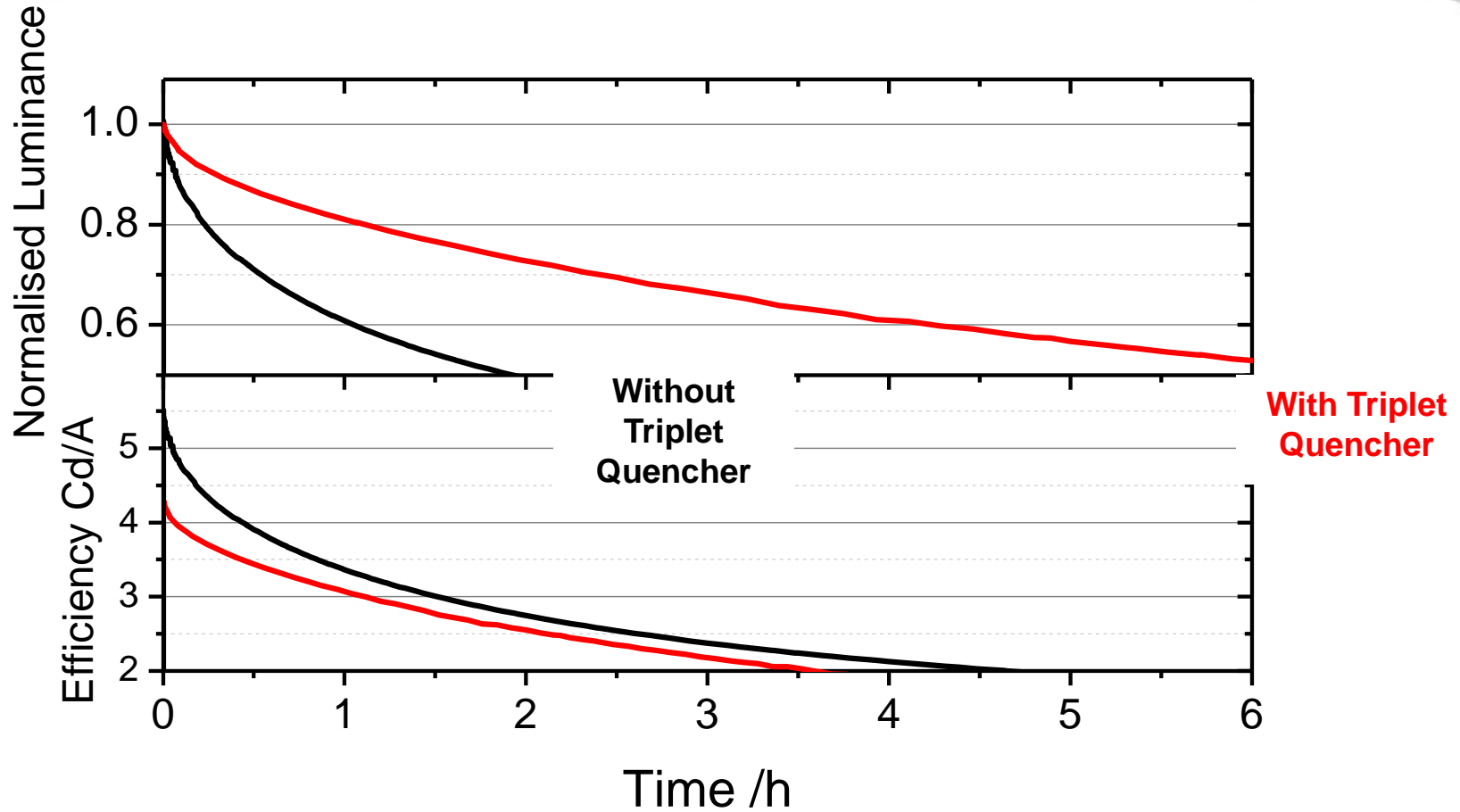
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- 20% drop in EQE consistent with loss of TTA contribution

Strategy 1 : Remove triplets

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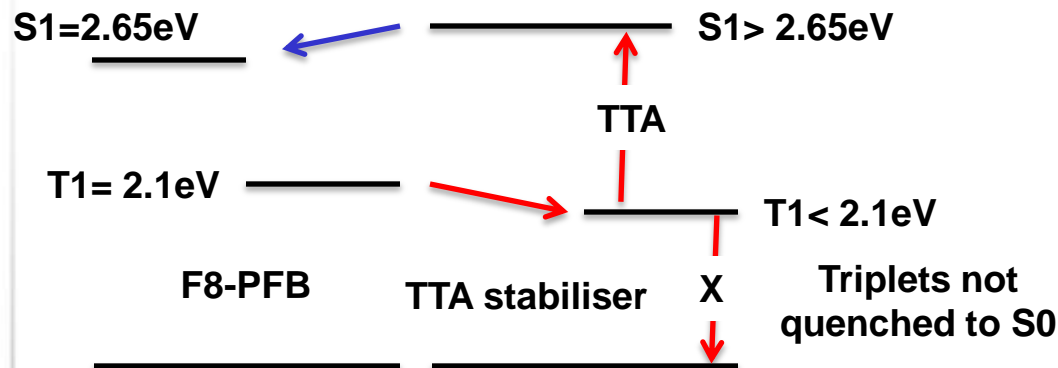
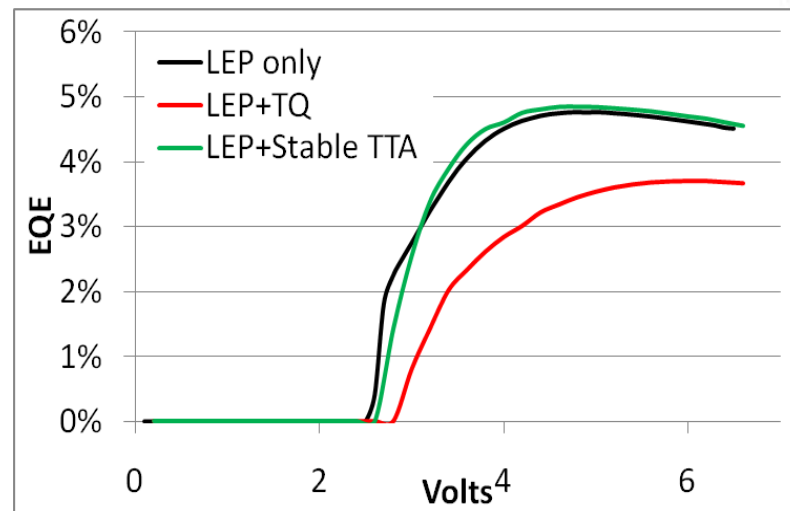


- Triplet quenchers can significantly improved T90 and T50 – but at expense of efficiency

Strategy 2 : Stabilise TTA

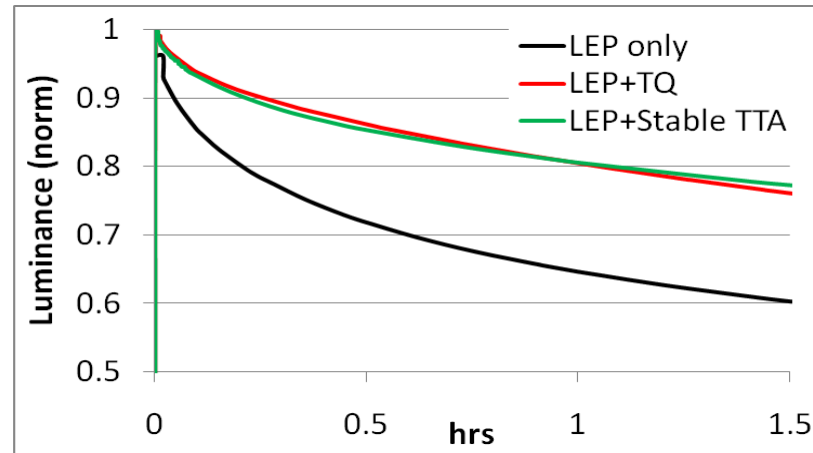
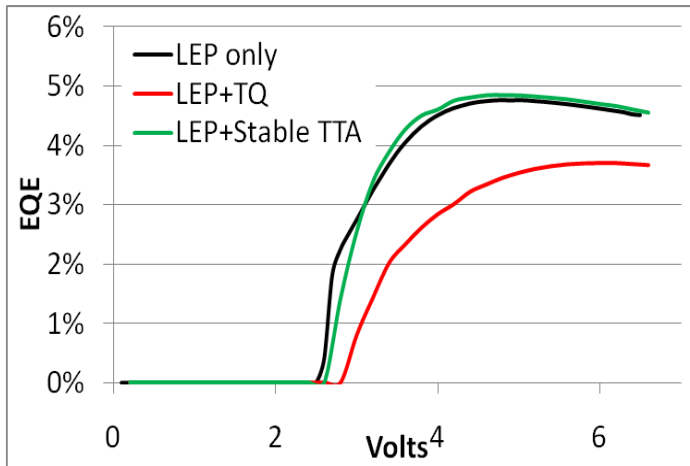
TTA stabilising unit

- Maintain TTA efficiency boost
- Prevent triplets from being quenched



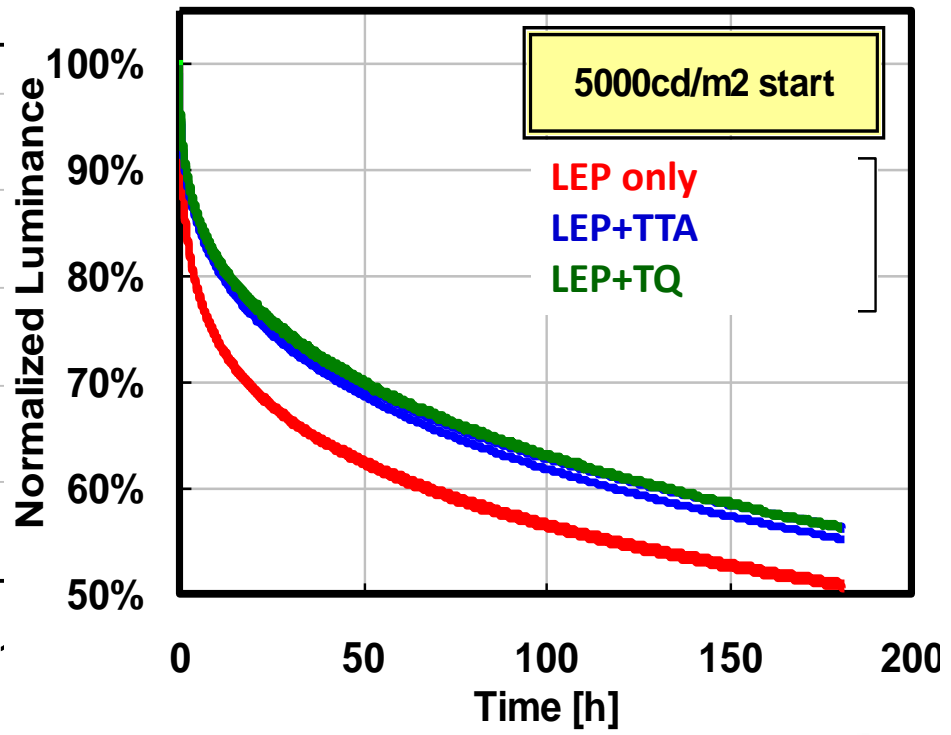
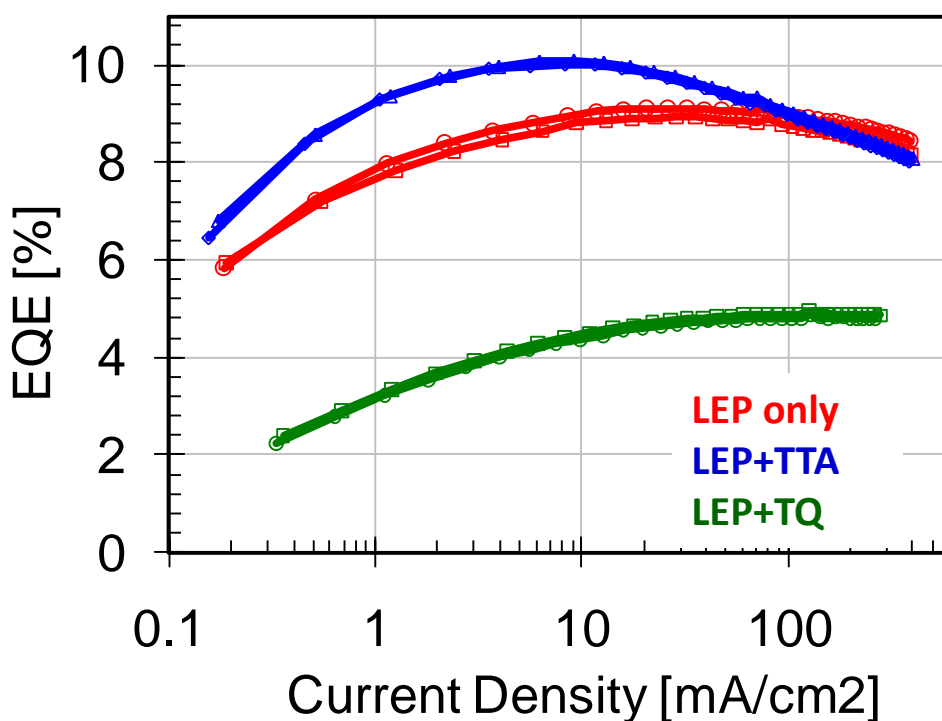
Strategy 2 : Stabilise TTA

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- Stable TTA units allow both high efficiency and long lifetime

EQE and lifetime in 10% EQE system C|D|T



- Long lifetime + High efficiency can be achieved by stabilising the TTA contribution

Review

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- **10% EQE @ $CIE_y=0.13$ demonstrated**
- **TTA process key to achieving this EQE**
- **Stable TTA units can give combination of good lifetime and high efficiency**

Excited state interaction in POLEDs

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Latest PLED performance data 2011/Spring

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High efficiency + good lifetime

Spin/BE data @1000cd/m2	Red			Green		Blue			
Efficiency [cd/A]	11	16	31	28	54	9.0	5.2	6.3	9.2
Colour (C.I.E.)	x=0.67 y=0.32	x=0.65 y=0.35	x=0.63 y=0.37	x=0.35 y=0.60	x=0.31 y=0.63	x=0.14 y=0.22	x=0.15 y=0.13	x=0.15 y=0.12	x=0.14 y=0.14
Lifetime [hrs]	200k	170k	350k	200k	190k	34k	21k	14k	15k
Vd [V]	6.0	5.2	5.7	4.4	5.6	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.5

Device structure

ITO (45nm)/ spin-coated HIL (50-65nm)/ Interlayer (20nm)/ LEP (60-75nm)/ low-WF cathode

- ✓ RGB common and simple layer structure
- ✓ Organics are fully solution-processed

Appendix

TTA yield

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TTA PROCESSES AVAILABLE	SINGLET YIELD FROM TTA	INTERNAL QE FOR 25% S:T	INTERNAL QE FOR 50% S:T
$T_1 + T_1 \rightarrow$ $5 \times (S_0 + Q)$ $3 \times (S_0 + T_n)$ $1 \times (S_0 + S_1)$	$1/18 + 3/18 \times 1/18 + 3/18 \times 3/18 \times 1/18 + \dots \sim$ 5% Ch. E. Swenberg and N. E. Geacintov, in <i>Organic Molecular Photophysics</i> , edited by J. B. Birks ~ John Wiley and Sons, NY, 1973, p. 489	$25\% + 0.05 \times 75\% =$ 30%	$50\% + 0.05 \times 50\% =$ 52.5%
$T_1 + T_1 \rightarrow$ $3 \times (S_0 + T_n)$ $1 \times (S_0 + S_1)$	$1/8 + 3/8 \times 1/8 + 3/8 \times 3/8 \times 1/8 + \dots$ ~20%	$25\% + 0.2 \times 75\% =$ 40% Kondakov, J. Soc. Inf. Disp. 17, 137 (2009)	$50\% + 0.2 \times 50\% =$ 60%
$T_1 + T_1 \rightarrow$ $1 \times (S_0 + S_1)$	$1/2 =$ 50%	$25\% + 0.5 \times 75\% =$ 62.5% Kondakov JAP 106, 124510 (2009)	$50\% + 0.5 \times 50\% =$ 75%

Combination of S:T>25% and high TTA yields now established as promising routes to higher efficiency fluorescent POLEDs