Transport Properties of SAM Molecular Diodes with Structural Tunability\textsuperscript{1} VLADIMIR BURTMAN, VALY Z. VARDENY, ALEX NDOBE, University of Utah — A new molecular engineering approach is used to fabricate molecular junctions from self-assembled-monolayers (SAM) sandwiched between gold electrodes, with structural tunability based on two-component solid-state mixtures of molecular wires (1,4 methane benzene-dithiol; Me-BDT, and molecular insulator spacers (1-pentanethiol; PT). The electrical transport of the fabricated SAM diodes was investigated at various temperatures versus the ratio $r$ between the molecular wires and insulators. At $r < 10^{-3}$ the diodes are dominated by the isolated molecular wires dispersed in the dielectric spacer matrix; from the conductivity vs. $r$ we determined the value for the Me-BDT molecular resistance to be $4 \times 10^8$ Ohm. We also found that the activation energy in these devices is \(~50\text{ meV}\) at low bias and high temperatures; and injection barrier of \(~1.5\text{ eV}\) at intermediate bias and low temperatures. At $r > 10^{-3}$ Me-BDT aggregates are formed in the PT matrix resulting in additional in-plane order and substantive changes in the transport properties.

\textsuperscript{1}This work was supported in part by the NSF NER 0507952, and DOE Grant No. ER 46109 at the University of Utah

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Date submitted: 29 Dec 2005

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