

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR09 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Meandering C₆₀ Chains on Organic Film Substrates¹ WEI JIN, University of Maryland, DANIEL DOUGHERTY, National Institute of Standards and Technology (currently at North Carolina State University), QIANG LIU, WILLIAM CULLEN, JOHN WEEKS, University of Maryland, STEVEN ROBEY, National Institute of Standards and Technology, JANICE REUTT-ROBEY, University of Maryland — Meandering chains of C₆₀ molecules are observed following vapor deposition of C₆₀ on a variety of organic molecular films including pentacene and zinc phthalocyanine, as well as previously reported a-sexithiophene. Such filamentous structures are in complete contrast to C₆₀'s typical close-packed growth habit, but are reminiscent of dipole fluids. We present STM images and a statistical analysis of chain structures observed for 0.2 - 0.9 mL C₆₀ on the square ZnPc overlayer ($a = 13.6 \text{ \AA}$, $b = 14.5 \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 89^\circ$) on Ag (111). Large islands of meandering C₆₀ islands indicate >50 nm C₆₀ diffusion lengths on this ZnPc film. The C₆₀ chain length, $\ell \sim 20 \text{ nm}$, depends weakly on coverage, reflecting the \sim constant C₆₀ density within these islands, and exhibits multiple branches. Chain structures are compared to the molecular dynamics predictions of a 2-d dipole fluid with the C₆₀ - C₆₀ interaction described by the Girifalco Potential (1 eV attraction) with additional dipole terms. A vertical moment of $\sim 0.8 \text{ D}$ simulates filament formation. The structure of the ZnPc support, not included in this simulation, appears to be a secondary consideration in these chain structures.

¹Supported by the Dept. of Commerce through the NIST Center of Nanomanufacturing and Metrology and the NSF-funded MRSEC via DMR-05-20471.

Wei Jin
University of Maryland

Date submitted: 10 Dec 2008

Electronic form version 1.4