

Activities for the THINFACE Open Day in Graz 2014

Lange Nacht der Forschung

April 4th, 2014, Graz

“THINFACE: Strom und Licht aus Plastikfolien?”



To attract as much potentially interested audience, we presented an exhibition on the research and concept of the ITN THINFACE with the (German) title: “THINFACE: Strom und Licht aus Plastikfolien?” in the event “LANGE NACHT DER FORSCHUNG” (“long night of research”).

Presenters: **Dr. Karin Zojer** (THINFACE participant, TU Graz)

Anton-Fernandez-Fernandez, MSc. (THINFACE ITN fellow, TU Graz)

Iris Hehn, MSc. (PhD student, member of the Egbert Zojer group, TU Graz)

We were operating a booth with two posters (“Mission of THINFACE and “THINFACE: Strom und Licht aus Plastikfolien?”), a video presentation, two magnetic games for hands-on visualization, and a lot of TU Graz giveaways. A large THINFACE poster was dedicated to demonstrate the ITN mission statement, while the two existing posters of the ITN (general description and advertisement for the summer school) were presented in a smaller format (see overview in Fig. 1). A second poster (in German) described (i) the role of materials and their interfaces in the organic electronic devices and (ii) how the interplay between materials and interfaces can be better understood using theoretical simulations.

We were very fortunate to win Iris Hehn for the presentation, who is particularly skilled in transferring scientific approaches and achievements to the broad public. With her, we continuously had at least two people at the booth being available for discussion within the 6 hours of exhibition.

Strategically perfectly placed next to the food stand, spectacular physics experiments, and near an e-mobility exhibition, a large number of visitors stopped by our stand. After the 1st hour, at least two of us were continuously involved in discussions. Remarkably, when switching the video presentation from a scientific slide show to the video clip “OLED” (Fig. 1), we recognized a huge increase in interested visitors. Apart from sharing a common interest in science, the audience was highly diverse and literally ranging from age 1 to 81.

Shashank Harivyasi (rightmost person in left picture of the 3rd row in Fig. 2) is going to join as the 2nd TU Graz ITN THINFACE fellow.

FIG. 1: Presented material

Thin-film hybrid interfaces
a training initiative for the design of next-generation energy devices

concepts and technology for future electronic devices

- with low power consumption
- for power generation

European know-how brought to young researchers

Locations: SÖNDERBORG, DRESDEN, SAINT AUBIN, PARIS, GRAZ, SAN SEBASTIÁN, MADRID, RANCO, MILAN

Activities: Device fabrication, Device characterization, Thin film characterization, Simulation, Thin film growth

Logos: Marie Curie Actions, THINFACE European Training Network, TU Graz

Event: LANGE NACHT der FORSCHUNG 2014, 04.04.2014, Graz

THINFACE
Strom und Licht aus Plastikfolien?

Vorhersage der Funktionsweise **elektronischer** Bauelemente bestehend aus (mehreren) ultra-dünnen Schichten organischer Materialien

Warum? organische Solarzelle („artificial leaf“) (c) IMEC, organische Leuchtdiode für Beleuchtung (d) NOVALCO

Wie? Simulationen auf verschiedensten Längenskalen, Vorhersage der elektrischen Eigenschaften der Bauelemente, Wachstum und Struktur dieser Grenzflächen

Was? Moleküle und Polymere

- effiziente Lichtabsorption und Ladungsgeneration
- effizienter Ladungstransport
- Emission von Lichtquanten

Elektrische Eigenschaften: Vom Molekül zur Grenzfläche

Logos: TU Graz, THINFACE, FWF, European Union



Video presentation:
“Sendung mit der Maus – OLED”

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hH-0WDgCnq8>





FIG. 2: Selected photos from the THIN FACE exhibition.

Some comments on the selection and preparation of the event

To attract as much potentially interested audience, we decided to participate in the event “LANGE NACHT DER FORSCHUNG” (“long night of research”, LNF). This event allows universities, research institutions, and companies to present their research to the broad public. Meanwhile, this event is established Austria-wide and held annually.

http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lange_Nacht_der_Forschung

Judging from previous experience, there is strong interest in these exhibitions. In the Graz area, several researchers even reported that they had to go in “overtime” into the morning hours to manage the amount of interested people.

Due to a misunderstanding in the very initial stage of planning (about the time when we started the hiring of our PhD student), we missed the nation-wide deadline by a day; thus, our contribution was not added to the nation-wide program. (that can be found here: www.langenachtderforschung.at)

However, we were part of the officially announced in the TU Graz program.

Considering, on the one hand, that there is no easier way to attract and inform the public about the mission of THINFACE and, on the other hand, that the organization of this event is very unflexible, we decided to apply for a THINFACE exhibition each year (in which the LNF is held within the duration of the THINFACE project) and do so as early as possible.

We are grateful for the support of Katharina Rubahn and Hans Kleemann (NOVALED AG) and for their inspiration.