

ITI HiFunMat Master Internship Proposal

M 1

M 2

Design, synthesis and characterization of luminescent host-guest inorganic-organic systems

Internship supervisor

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| Collaboration with a HiFunMat member (<i>please indicate their name</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes : |

Student profile looked for

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|---|---|
| Master program (<i>more than one box can be ticked</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Material science and engineering <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chemistry <input type="checkbox"/> Physics |
| Other indications if necessary | |

Internship description

Ion-exchangeable layered metal oxides have received growing attention because they can be functionalized under soft conditions, providing access to a very wide variety of kinetic metastable phases, inaccessible *via* classical solid-state reactions.¹⁻³ Such new phases, recently reviewed,⁴ range from complex new inorganic solids,⁵ organic-inorganic hybrid materials⁶ to 2D exfoliated nanosheets.⁷⁻⁹ They can present various interesting properties for instance in the field of energy (fuel cells, artificial photosynthesis, photovoltaics, batteries...) or in nanoelectronics (high-κ dielectrics, ferroelectrics, multiferroics...).⁴ Among ion-exchangeable layered metal oxides, layered perovskites, Dion-Jacobson, Ruddlesden-Popper and Aurivillius phases, have probably been the most widely studied.^{1,10-15}

One of the teams involved in this project has been interested for several years in the synthesis and characterization of lamellar hybrid materials, notably layered oxides and hydroxides essentially for their magnetic, optical or electrochemical properties.^{16,17} Therefore this team has developed new synthetic strategies for functionalizing such layered materials.¹⁸⁻²¹ Very recently, several reports by us and others have underlined the considerable progress offered by microwave activation for the functionalization of such layered perovskites, notably in terms of speed of the reactions.^{6,19,22-25} In addition, apart from classical insertion or grafting reactions,²²⁻²⁴ microwave-assisted post-synthesis modification²⁶ and exfoliation^{27,28} have also been reported. On the other hand, the other team involved in this project has its expertise in synthesizing and characterizing active fluorophores such as curcuminoid that can be used for bio-imaging,²⁹ organic photovoltaic³⁰ and organic light emitting diodes.³¹

In this respect, we propose during this M1 internship to take advantage of the joint experience of those two teams to design new persistently luminescent materials. Indeed, such materials are

receiving growing attention, but to the best of our knowledge layered oxides have not been explored yet for this purpose, contrarily to Layered Double Hydroxides or Metal Organic Frameworks,³² despite of the advantages they offer, such as great thermal and chemical stability. More specifically, in this project, while the inorganic hosts will consist in layered tantalate, layered niobate and layered titanates, the organic guest will be based on curcuminoid dye. Therefore, the guest molecules will be designed to favor persistent luminescence, and to be able to undergo insertion grafting reactions (*i.e.* being chemically stable in mild conditions and bearing an anchoring group).

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