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Luminescent MOF Architectures for radioactive gas detection and

engineering large Stokes shift



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https://nanoporous.mater.unimib.it/

MOFs and MOFs composite for high-energy radiation detection





Radioactive gas detection with scintillating MOFs



Nature Photonics, **2021**, *15*, 393 - 400.

Nature Communications, 2022, 13, 3504.

Nature Photonics, 2023, 17, 672 - 678.

Radioluminescence and scintillating properties of MOFs and MOF composites

Scintillators: materials that produce light pulses upon interaction with ionizing radiation



electrons cascade OF nanocrysta S_0 VB olymer matrix Zr +) cluster

MOF@polymer based composite scintillator



- Fast time response (few ns)
- High light-yield compared to pure organic scintillators

Scintillation process in MOF nanocrystals

Synthesis and crystal structure



<u>Nature Photonics</u>, **2021**, *15*, 393 – 400.

Synthesis and crystal structure

Zr₆O₄(OH)₄(COO⁻)₁₂ cluster



DPA diphenylanthracene









0.581

0.591

Nature Photonics, **2021**, *15*, 393 – 400.

Photophysics and radioluminescence properties

MOF nanocrystals: photo- and radioluminescence



Photophysical properties of ZrDPA nanocrystals

Sensitization effect of the inorganic building blocks

MOFs @polymer nanocomposites for fast scintillation

Synergistic behaviour of inorganic/organic components inside ZrDPA nanostructures





Ultrafast time-resolved scintillation experiments



Time (ns

(x-rays exposure)

Scintillation decay time

Scintillation rise time

 $\tau_{\text{DECAY}} = 4.1 \text{ ns}$

 $\tau_{\rm RISE} = 45 \ \rm ps$

$$CTR = 85 \pm 17 \ ps$$

Photon management in co-assembled MOFs





Fast emitting reabsorption-free

MOF nanocrystals



Nature Communications, 2022, 13, 3504.

Controlled growth of nanometer-sized Zr-based hetero-ligand MOFs

Co-assembly of the 2 different ligands in various ratio generate a family of hetero-ligand MOFs with different concentration of DPT units.



Zr-DPT:DPA-X% 0.1 %< X < 8 %







Homogeneous distribution of ligands: HP ¹²⁹Xe NMR



Photoluminescence and scintillation properties

Large Stokes Shift emission



Scintillation of mixed-linker MOFs



Scintillating sponges concept

SPARTE project: nanoporous scintillator for radioactive gas detection



M. Orfano, J. Perego, et al., <u>Nature Photonics</u>, **2023**, 17, 672 – 678.



Scintillating Hf-based MOFs



Hf-DPA MOFs as effective solid state nanoporous scintillator



Scintillating Hf-based MOFs



Ultra-high surface area nanoporous scintillators





Radioactive gas detection with MOFs

Fast and effective gas diffusion and radioactive gas detection



Confined Free Хе Xe 293 K 248 K 202 K 195 K 187 K 60 140 100 20 -20 180 δ (ppm)

¹²⁹Xe hyperpolarized NMR

2% ¹²⁹Xe in a He/N₂ mixture at 298 K









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Please, visit SPARTE website @ https://www.sparte-project.eu/

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Synthesis and crystal structure

	Pore volume (cm³/g)		Density (g/cm³)	
	Calculated	Experimental ^a	Calculated	Experimental ^b
Zr-DPA	1.20	1.11	0.591	0.581

a. Calculated from N_2 adsorption at 77 K according to NLDFT theory. b. Calculated from He picnometry and N_2 adsorption at 77 K measurements.

