

# Luminescent molecules and quantum sized particles in the cavities and channels of zeolites

## Summary of the Research Plan

*(A) Chemical, photochemical and spectroscopic properties (vibrational, electronic, time resolved) of dye molecules in the channels of zeolite L nano crystals with special emphases on sandwich structures.*

Neutral organic dyes of appropriate shape are inserted typically from the gas phase into the channels of zeolite L micro/nano crystals. Cationic dyes are inserted by ion exchange. Topics: alignment of the dyes with respect to the c-axis, intrazeolite transport kinetics monitored by energy transfer, replacement kinetics of inserted dyes by small molecules, interactions with the host, influence of the cocations. Thin layers (monograin) are used where possible.

— *Vibrational spectroscopy* of the intercalated compounds (usually measured under HV conditions) are used for structural identification (normal coordinate analysis), as an analytical tool (e.g. quantitative analysis of water content), for studying guest-host interactions and interactions between the intercalated molecules as a function of the loading.

— *Chemical reactivity* between the intercalated molecules, the guest-host reactivity and the reactivity of the guests with (small) molecules (e.g. oxygen) penetrating from the outside will be studied.

— The *electronic structure*, energy transfer and migration will be investigated by means of stationary and time resolved UV/VIS and luminescence spectroscopy, including optical microscopy techniques.

*(B) Quantum sized  $Ag_2S$  ( $Cu_2S$ ) in the cavities of zeolite A*

The method developed by us to prepare the first luminescent quantum sized  $Ag_2S$  particles will be applied for preparing materials with different cocations,  $Ag_2S/AgX$  particles, and  $Cu_2S$  in the cavities of zeolite A, ZK-4 and zeolite L. X-ray and other methods will be used for structural identification.

— The *electronic structure* of these new materials will be investigated by means of stationary and time resolved UV/VIS and luminescence spectroscopy, including optical microscopy techniques.

— *Vibrational spectroscopy* of the material (typically HV conditions) are used for structural identification, as an analytical tool (e.g. quantitative analysis of water content), and for studying guest-host interactions and interactions between the intercalated molecules as a function of the loading.

— *The occurrence of intrazeolite charge transport* (ionic/electronic) via interacting quantum sized particles in the ground state and in electronically excited states under high vacuum conditions and/or in presence of a solvent are of special interest.

*(C) Semiconductor/metal interfaces of quantum sized  $AgCl/Ag$ ,  $Ag_2S/Ag$ ,  $AgCl/Au$*

The electronic properties of particles consisting typically of 400 up to about 1000 atoms are analyzed with special emphases on the  $AgCl/Ag$ ,  $Ag_2S/Ag$  and  $AgCl/Au$  semiconductor/metal interface (Schottky barrier, ohmic contact, potential barriers).

**Key words:** Supramolecular organization, luminescence, chemical reactivity, electronic structure, quantum sized, interfaces