

Developing inorganic lead-free perovskite for broadband emission

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Scientists from Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics developed photoluminescence materials and the mechanisms. Credit: Ming Shi, Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics

Artificial lighting accounts for one-fifth of global electricity



consumption, and developing efficient and stable luminescence materials is critical to avoid unnecessary waste of electric energy. The single emitters with broadband emission, such as lead halide perovskites, have recently triggered tremendous attention for artificial illumination and display applications. To develop lead-free and stable perovskites with broadband emission, researchers in China targeted low-dimensional bismuth halide perovskites.

They published their work on Apr. 15 in Energy Material Advances.

"The single emitters with <u>broadband</u> emission can circumvent critical problems faced in the traditional mixed and multicomponent emitters such as the efficiency losses caused by self-absorption, the complex device structure, and the colors instability due to the different degradation rates of phosphors," said paper author Rengui Li, a professor with the State Key Laboratory of Catalysis, Dalian National Laboratory for Clean Energy, Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). "Lead halide perovskites have emerged as highly attractive next-generation optoelectronic materials for light-emitting applications due to their extraordinary photoelectric properties."

Li explained that low-dimensional organic-inorganic hybrid lead halide perovskites dominate the research of broadband emission benefiting from their strong electron-phonon coupling interactions inducing the generation of self-trapped excitons.

"However, the toxicity of lead and intrinsic instability caused by organic cations hinder their further commercial applications," Li said. "Therefore, it is imperative to develop inorganic lead-free halide perovskites with high-efficiency broadband emission."

Bismuth-based halide perovskites have attracted considerable attention



in optoelectronic fields due to their low toxicity, good chemical stability and the isoelectronic configuration of Bi^{3+} with Pb^{2+} . According to Li, the $Cs_3Bi_2Br_9$ has emerged as an emitter for light-emitting applications given a large exciton binding energy to promote the exciton recombination efficiently. However, there are a few reports on $Cs_3Bi_2Br_9$ for broadband light emission at <u>ambient temperature</u> and pressure, although the low electronic dimensionality and strong quantum confinement brought by vacancy-ordered layered structure endow it that potential.

One of the dominant reasons is that $Cs_3Bi_2Br_9$ possesses extremely strong exciton-phonon coupling because of the localized and compressed microstructure; Li said that can result in self-trapped excitons responsible for the broad photoluminescence band being more susceptible to thermal quenching through emitting phonons nonradiative, thus $Cs_3Bi_2Br_9$ only exhibits broadband emission at low temperatures or high pressure. Li and his team have sought to develop the broadband emission for $Cs_3Bi_2Br_9$, and more importantly, to figure out the luminescence mechanism.

"In this paper, we have successfully incorporated a trace amount of Sb (0.13 wt.%) into the $Cs_3Bi_2Br_9$ without disturbing its long range structure," Li said. "The resulted $Cs_3Bi_2Br_9$:Sb exhibits a prominent broadband emission and an remarkable enhancement of photoluminescence quantum yield (PLQY)."

"The enhanced PLQY is attributed to the regulation of the <u>exciton</u> recombination pathways by Sb incorporation and the nonradiative recombination of self-trapped excitons decreases," Li said.

Femtosecond transient absorption spectra reveal the presence of different energy levels of self-trapped excitons, and after photoexcitation, the excited free excitons transfer to self-trapped



excitons undergoing through the gradient energy levels, and the extrinsic self-trapped excitons at various energy states contribute to the broadband emission, Li said, the $Cs_3Bi_2Br_9$:Sb exhibits excellent structural and optical stability for months, which paves a way for the potential luminescence applications for the lead-free halide perovskites.

More information: Ming Shi et al, Tuning Exciton Recombination Pathways in Inorganic Bismuth-Based Perovskite for Broadband Emission, *Energy Material Advances* (2022). <u>DOI:</u> <u>10.34133/2022/9845942</u>

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