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ADVANCED OPTICAL MATERIALS

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Cover Picture

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Bloch Surface Wave-Coupled Enhanced Fluorescence on a Nano-Assembly–Photonic Crystal Hybrid Interface for Ultrasensitive Detection (Advanced Optical Materials 35/2026)

Sudha Maria Lis S., Weinan Liu, Seemesh Bhaskar, Somnath Pandit, Brian T. Cunningham, Shivakiran Bhaduha B. N.

e70462 | First Published: 18 September 2026

This article relates to: ▾

Photonic crystal-based smartphone sensor
This cover illustrates ultrasensitive sensing of analytes using a smartphone camera via photonic crystal coupled Bloch surface waves. The sensor is excited by the generation of circulating displacement currents induced by the spatially confined electric fields in the presence of gold nanoparticles, TiO$_2$ nanorod hybrid crystalline layers along with graphene oxide interface, leading to the enhanced fluorescence of biomolecules. Further details can be found in the Research Article by Brian T. Cunningham, Shivakiran Bhaduha B. N., and co-workers (DOI: 10.1002/adom.71496).

Abstract | PDF | Request permissions

Issue Information

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e70639 | First Published: 18 September 2026

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PERSPECTIVE

Full Access

Plastic Optical Glass From Elemental Sulfur Feedstocks

Lindsey N. Holmen, Kaitlyn P. Martin, Jake Mielewicz, Chisom Obikaya, Jon T. Njardarson, Jean-Luc Brédas, Jeong-Jae Wie, Robert A. Norwood, Jeffrey Pyun

e70720 | First Published: 05 September 2026

Sulfur-derived plastic optical glasses prepared from elemental sulfur (S_8) and sulfur monochloride (S_2Cl_2) petrochemical feedstocks provide high refractive indices and broadband visible-to-infrared transparency. Advances in inverse vulcanization, sulfenyl chloride inverse vulcanization, and disulfide metathesis polymerization have enabled the synthesis of sulfur-containing polymers for precision optics, photolithography, additive manufacturing, and photonic fabrication.

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REVIEW

Full Access

The Evolution of Electrochromic Materials: Transitioning from Single-Metal Oxides to Multimetal-based Systems for Multifunctional Smart Devices

Kavya K. Pallipat, Pritha Dutta, Mukhesh N. Ganesha, A. Soundarya Mary, Ashutosh K. Singh

e71706 | First Published: 31 August 2026

The evolution from single-metal to multi-metal electrochromic systems is tracked, revealing how multimetal oxides enhance color tuning, switching, texture, ion transport, optical modulation, and stability. These advances enable multifunctional devices integrating smart windows, energy storage, self-powering, flexible electronics, and thermal management, while tutorial insights and AI-driven design guide the development of next-gen key pathways toward sustainable electrochromic technologies.

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Advances in Luminescent Polyurethanes: Materials Design and Emission Modulation

Run Zhang, Yujie Wang, Kai Fan, Biao Zhao, Jianping Deng

e71707 | First Published: 31 August 2026

Luminescent polyurethanes, distinguished by their extreme customizability and abundant intermolecular hydrogen bonds, can fulfill a wide range of roles in luminescent materials, including leading luminescence source design principles, as well as generating and modulating luminescence. This review systematically summarizes luminescent polyurethane materials, including metal-based materials, organic luminescent systems, and quantum dots, and summarizes their combination with polyurethane toward developing luminescent materials.

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

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Bloch Surface Wave-Coupled Enhanced Fluorescence on a Nano-Assembly–Photonic Crystal Hybrid Interface for Ultrasensitive Detection

Sudha Maria Lis S., Weinan Liu, Seemesh Bhaskar, Somnath Pandit, Brian T. Cunningham, Shivakiran Bhaduha B. N.

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This article relates to: ▾

Bloch surface wave-enabled photonic crystal interfaces integrated with metallo-dielectric nano-assemblies produce intense electromagnetic hotspots that enhance fluorescence by ~1300-fold. The resulting biosensor platform detects cancer biomarkers at femtomolar concentrations in clinical samples. This work establishes a compact, highly sensitive strategy for portable, real-time diagnostics based on photonic crystal–coupled emission.

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Vertical p-MoS$_2$/n-Si$_{1-x}$Ge$_x$ FS-n-GaN Photodetectors for Autonomous Driving, Imaging, and Optical Communication

Kaifeng Wang, Xue Fan, Jiacheng Guo, Jun He, Zhixiang Zhang, Kanghai Tan, Yu Xu, Zihao Huang, Huile Zhang, Shunyan Chen, Shengjian Chen, Xiaohua Li, Heshou Liu, Jinke Liu, Jun He

e70377 | First Published: 09 September 2026

A wafer-scale vertical p-MoS$_2$/n-Si$_{1-x}$Ge$_x$/FS-n-GaN heterojunction photodetector is developed for autonomous driving, imaging, and optical communication. The device achieves an ultrahigh gain of 43 500 and 1.64 × 10^{13} Jones detectivity. This architecture enables centimeter-level environmental perception accuracy, establishing an innovative material and architecture paradigm for next-generation GaN-compatible autonomous sensing platforms.

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Tailoring Amine Substitution in Fluorene and Dibenzothiophene: A Molecular Strategy for Ultralong Organic Phosphorescence

Francesco Puglisi, Gianluca Accorsi, Eduardo Fabiano, Lorenzo Franco, Alessandro Agosteo, Samuel Eyley, Wim Thielemans, Owen J. Dver, Rebecca Anglik, Francesco Paolo Fanizzi, Gustavo Fernández, Agostino L. Capodilupo

e70667 | First Published: 19 August 2026

Tailored amine substitution in fluorene and dibenzothiophene derivatives enables systematic control of ultralong organic phosphorescence, with lifetimes reaching 1.2 s and quantum yields up to 12%. DFT calculations and time-resolved EPR reveal how charge-transfer character, sulfur-induced spin–orbit coupling and triplet manifold engineering cooperate to promote efficient ultralong organic phosphorescence in rigid PVA matrices.

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Regioselective π-Extension of Helical PAHs: Tuning Energy Gaps and Excited-State Dynamics Directed by Clar's Sextet Migration

Zhibo Liu, Zheng Zhang, Hikaru Sotome, Takashi Hirose

e70675 | First Published: 25 August 2026

Central and terminal ring fusions of per-perfluoro[7]helicene (**PH7F**) yield novel helical polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (HPAHs). Clar's sextet migration directs π-extension toward inner-rim isomers. This topology-directed strategy bridges the discrete optical gaps of homologous series. Transition-moment density (TMD) analysis visualizes the structural origins of the decoupled oscillator strengths and distinct excited-state dynamics.

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Structural Reconfiguration Unlocks Pressure-Ultrasensitive and Efficient Above-Bandgap Emission in (AMP)PbI$_4$ Perovskite for Optical Manometry

Shuo Yang, Shuaibing Wu, Marcin Runowski, Peng Du, Sebastian Mahlik, Min Liao, Xinglian Zhao, Yifan Tian, Hongwei Wang, Tian Cui

e70676 | First Published: 08 September 2026

A pressure-ultrasensitive Dion–Jacobson perovskite enables precise optical manometry through synchronized organic mechanistic structural reconfiguration. Reaching a structural "sweet spot" at 0.97 GPa triggers a 300% fluorescence boost and vivid color transitions. This work underscores the potential of lattice rigidity engineering in hybrid halides for robust, reversible, and low-threshold optoelectronic sensing.

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An All-Silicon Hybrid Refractive-Metalens Bifocal Imaging System With Dual Image Planes and Broadband Achromatic Performance

Chao-Chieh Hsu, Qiu-Chun Zeng, You-Song Huang, Chih-Ming Wang

e70689 | First Published: 27 August 2026

An all-silicon hybrid refractive–metalens system enables dual-field-of-view thermal imaging in the long-wave infrared spectrum without mechanical motion. By implementing wavefront shunting, the system forms two distinct image planes for wide-angle and 2.5× narrow-telephoto mode and two focal planes, enabling rapid zoom-equivalent transitions between maximize optical throughput for efficient target search and high-resolution tracking.

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Multi-Dimensional Near–Far-Field Holography Enabled by On-Chip Metasurface for Information Encryption

Bo Chu, Shuqian Xu, Hanxin Zhang, Zicheng Yang, Haoshuang Zhong, Guoyong Zhang, Xiao Chen, Hao Chen, Zhuo Chen

e70690 | First Published: 24 August 2026

The proposed chip-integrated metasurface combines Fresnel and far-field holography for joint encryption. The Fresnel-region plasmon can only be decrypted by retracing back-distributed wave-front multiple far-field holograms. This dual-field collaborative strategy enforces joint authorization between near- and far-field domains, significantly enhancing the collaborative strategy simultaneously enhances information capacity and system security.

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Controlled Self-Assembly of Polydiacetylene Photoswitches Toward Multi-Stimuli Responsiveness and Anticounterfeiting Functionality

Yaye Ai, Yinuo Zhuo, Longquan Zeng, Haiyin Mo, Kaiyang Zhu, Yuhan Liu, Zhihao Huang, Yu Zhang, Qing Meng, Kaixuan Song, Yongguang Li

e70691 | First Published: 22 August 2026

A self-assembled gamma-diacetylene system enables long-wavelength-sensitized polymerization and polymer-stabilized triggered excimer dissociation, producing dual colorimetric and fluorescent responses suitable for information encryption and anticounterfeiting applications.

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Tunable Polariton Canalization in Natural Van Der Waals Oxide

Hossein Shiravi, Wenkai Zhang, Daniel Rhodes, Luis Balicas, Haidong Zhou, Guangxin Ni

e70692 | First Published: 22 August 2026

This work demonstrates the first report of tunable polariton canalization in natural α-V_2O_5 van der Waals crystals. Using infrared nano-imaging combined with electromagnetic simulations, this directional polariton propagation is directly observed in pristine flakes without nanostructuring or chemical modification. The findings establish α-V_2O_5 as a robust and versatile platform for mid-infrared nanophotonic applications.

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Giant Piezoelectric Effect in MoS_2 for High-Performance Photodetectors and Reconfigurable Logic Computing

Yuqi Ren, Qinwen Xu, Chenxi Hu, Bingqian Xu, Binghui Lin, Haiyang Li, Yan Cai, Chenglang Sun

e70693 | First Published: 31 August 2026

Piezoelectric polarization gradients generate strong flexoelectric polarization in MoS_2, selectively modulating a metal-substrate Schottky barrier and producing directional transport. The optimized architecture delivers an enhancement of over 13-fold in effective piezoelectric response relative to the planar control, and enables reconfigurable NAND/NOR optoelectronic logic simply by reversing the source-drain bias, integrating sensing and computing in one device.

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Two-Dimensional Plasmonic Hot Spots Engineering for Photocatalysis

Zimeng Liu, Shengkai Cai, Lei Shao, Qin Yang, Sheng Chen, Xin Yan, Xunfang Fu

e70694 | First Published: 24 August 2026

A general self-assembly strategy yields 2D plasmonic nanosheets with precisely tunable hollow-shell nanogaps. Narrower gaps induce prominent Fano resonance and amplify local electric fields, therefore boosting hot electron generation and photocatalysis. The engineering of plasmonic hot spots paves a 2D edge offers a prospective way to design a high-efficient plasmonic photocatalyst.

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Enhancement of Circular Dichroism in Chiral Dielectric Metasurfaces by Ion Beam Irradiation

Anna Floriana, Katsuya Tanaka, Lukas Raein Jaeger, Martin Hafermann, Thomas Pertsch, Carsten Running, Isabelle Staude

e70695 | First Published: 03 September 2026

Ion beam irradiation enables post fabrication tuning of dissipative losses in chiral dielectric metasurfaces composed of C4 symmetric silicon nanostructures. By tailoring the absorption toward the circular eigenmodes, the circular dichroism is enhanced by a factor of 2.5, establishing a versatile route for maximizing optical chirality and polarization control in low-loss nanophotonic platforms.

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Revealing Mechanofluorochromism and Intricate Long-lived Decay Pathways in Keto-Coumarin-Based Molecular Crystals

Peter M. McDonald, Subhadeep Das, Arnab Mandal, Gilles Cravcer, Clémence Allain, Abhijit Patra, Rinni Mahiveer

e70696 | First Published: 09 September 2026

Donor–acceptor organic emissive materials show great promise in cutting-edge optical technologies. Here, we investigate the photophysical properties of coumarin-based crystals in detail. Both show mechanofluorochromism, but a diphenylamine donor derivative exhibits intricate decay pathways in the crystal form, including decays ranging from ps to ms. Information encryption is then demonstrated by organic-matrix doping.

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Flexible Bi_2Te_3 Photothermoelectric Position-Sensitive Detector

Ruixia Dui, Hang Ju, Maoniaw Wei, Peiyao Zeng, Aoyan Zhang, Beibei Zhu, Junpeng Lu, Zhenhua Ni, Xing Gu, Wenhui Wang, Li Tao

e70697 | First Published: 24 August 2026

Flexible position-sensitive detectors based on the photothermoelectric effect in Bi_2Te_3 are fabricated via magnetron sputtering on polyimide substrates. The device exhibits a 1 mm resolution, excellent mechanical robustness is demonstrated, with performance retained after 1000 bending cycles. This work provides a reliable, cost-effective solution for precise positioning in soft robots and drones.

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Chiral Molecular Scintillators of Zn-Tb Heterometallic Complex With Excellent Circularly Polarized Luminescence and High-Resolution X-Ray Imaging

Yaqing Liao, Junjie Ke, Ling Wang, Sen Yin, Xiang Li, Shuxiong Zhu, Yingling Lu, Yun Peng, Jinsheng Liao, He-Rui Wen

e71699 | First Published: 27 August 2026

Two pairs of new chiral molecular scintillators were successfully synthesized by introducing D-/l-TRP ions and halogens, and their enantiomeric structures were confirmed by single-crystal X-ray diffraction. Both exhibit excellent circularly polarized luminescence (CPL) properties. Flexible films were fabricated for high-resolution imaging applications. This work provides new insights into the synthetic design of chiral molecular scintillators.

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