Borys Group at Montana State University

Experimental optical spectroscopy and nano-optics of quantum materials

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Quantum technologies need new quantum materials



Quantum materials



Optical, electrical, and magnetic behavior that can create, store, transport, and/or manipulate quantum states of light and matter

What will future quantum devices be made from?

Improved scalability?

- Better performance?
- New quantum effects?

Borys Group at Montana State:

experimental nano-optics and quantum materials research



Optical spectroscopy group:

- How materials **absorb** light.
- How materials emit light.



Borys Group at Montana State:

experimental nano-optics and quantum materials research







ACS Nano 13, 1284 (2019).



Exploration of novel nanoscale optoelectronic systems



ACS Nano 13, 5646 (2019). Nature Photonics 12, 402 (2018).



A versatile quantum-optical spectroscopy setup



- μPL, μRaman, μAbsorption, μPolarization spectroscopy & imaging.
- Temp: 3.5 K 350 K.
- Spatial resolutions: >300 nm.

- Time resolution: 30 ps.
- Detection wavelengths: 400 nm 1100 nm
- Laser wavelengths: 400 nm 2000 nm

Probing materials by analyzing their interactions with light



Sample courtesy of the Jim Hone Group at Columbia University



- Optical nano-imaging.
- AFM nano-imaging
- Spatial resolutions: <20 nm.
- Temp: 300K.

Bottom optical microscope

AFM probe illuminated with an excitation laser

Top optical microscope (lights on)



Side optical microscope (lights off)





Significant nanoscale heterogeneity resolved with nano-PL



Nat. Commun. **6**, 7993 (2015). Front. Phys. **11**, 117804 (2016). 2D Mater. **4**, 021024 (2017).

Nano-optics of quantum materials at Montana State

New materials to harness quantum phenomena on ultra-small length scales and ultrashort timescales.

quantum sensing • quantum information science • next-generation optoelectronics fundamental many-body physics • non-equilibrium systems

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