

## Oxidation and Photo-Eged Studies of Graphen-Like Two Dimensional Arsenic-, Germanium Sulfide Crystals and Nanostructured Glasses

Mitsa V.<sup>1</sup>, Holomb R.<sup>1</sup>, Kondrat A.<sup>1</sup>, Popovich N.<sup>1</sup>, Veresh M<sup>2</sup>,  
Csik A.<sup>3</sup>, Vondráček M.<sup>4</sup>, Tsud N.<sup>5</sup>, Matolin V.<sup>5</sup>, Kevin P.<sup>6</sup>, Fekeshgazi I.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Research Institute of Solid State Physics and Chemistry, Uzhhorod National University, Uzhhorod, Ukraine*

<sup>2</sup>*Wigner Research Centre for Physics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary*

<sup>3</sup>*Institute for Nuclear Research of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Debrecen, Hungary*

<sup>4</sup>*Institute of Physics, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Cukrovarnická 10, 16253 Prague 6, Czech Republic*

<sup>5</sup>*Department of Surface and Plasma Science, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic*

<sup>6</sup>*Elettra-Sincrotrone Trieste S.C.p.A., Trieste, Italy*

Arsenic sulphide minerals are found naturally and have been used as artists' pigments since prehistoric times. Orpiment  $\text{As}_2\text{S}_3$  gives a yellow pigment and realgar  $\text{As}_4\text{S}_4$  usually gives an orange-red. Recently by macro FT-Raman and energy-dependent micro-Raman spectroscopy we found the light-induced structural changes in glassy As-S system with realgar inclusion [1,2]. New observed features in the Raman spectra of As-S glass are related to transformations of  $\text{As}_4\text{S}_4$  molecules. Being initially in the structure of glassy closed and connected with glassy network only by weak Van der Waals forces  $\alpha$  ( $\beta$ )- $\text{As}_4\text{S}_4$  molecules are transformed into pararealgar p- $\text{As}_4\text{S}_4$  form during laser illumination. The effectiveness of transformations depends mainly from photon energies used for irradiation but transformation tendency observed for all used photon energies ranged from 1.65 to 2.54 eV. Our findings are multidisciplinary and may have a significant value to play in disciplines such as natural resources, prehistoric artistic expression, archaeology, art history and chalcogenide photonics. Based on our finding of light- induce realgar-pararealgar transformation the additional related investigations [3] also found realgar degradation by different halogen lamps and a LED lamp, used in museum exhibitions are helpful to describe the photo-degradation processes in pigment[4]. The light remains unique because it can neither be eliminated nor completely controlled. The red colour of the pigment based on realgar  $\alpha$ - $\text{As}_4\text{S}_4$  on exposure to light transformed to pararealgar p- $\text{As}_4\text{S}_4$  that exhibits yellow colour. Based on our investigations, the light necessary for viewing a work of art with realgar pigments, can damage the artwork starting from with photon energies equal 1.65 eV with relatively high intensities  $10^2 \text{ W/cm}^2$ . Process of light induces polymorph transformation on air is accompanies with formation arsenolite  $\text{As}_2\text{O}_3$  and finally lead to whitening of realgar. The process is not completely clarified so far. Based on SRPS, XPS and surface enhance Raman

and PL spectroscopy studies we found some photo-aged processes occurring on the surface of amorphous  $As_2S_3$  film for chalcogenide photonics. In energy dependent luminescence in orpiment, realgar and glassy As-S with realgar inclusion we have found evidence of  $As_2O_3$ ,  $As_2O_5$  formation and PL band typical for substance known in general formula  $As_2O_3 \cdot xH_2O$ . Last is show that is why the illuminated places with realgar in high humidity condition can be wet. May be this finding help to give answer why some places on paintings "dry". The positions of PL bands in excitation-dependent photoluminescence of aged and freshly fractured  $g-GeS_2(T_iV_j)$  prepared with different rate of quenching ( $V_j$ ) and melt temperature ( $T_i$ ) are compare and analyse together with Raman PL, XPS spectra of GeS,  $\beta-GeS_2$ . Excitation-dependent PL spectra of  $g-GeS_2(T_iV_j)$  exhibit increasing intensity up to  $E_{ex} = 2.75$  eV. For this  $E_{ex}$  the strong broad green band centred at 2.37 eV appear. Such behaviour of PL spectra of  $\beta-GeS_2$  is typical for  $GeO_2$  with quartz-like structure.

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3. Andrea Macchi. Case of realgar photo-oxidation: looking for the best lighting system applied to cultural heritage. PhD thesis. Universita di Roma.-2012.