# HOW TO EMPLOY RANDOM PARTICULATE MEDIA TO DESIGN **NEAR PERFECT ABSORPTION AND SPECTRAL SELECTIVITY?**

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Orléans. October 4th - 6th, 2023



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# **Context:** applications requiring controlled spectral properties

Control of emission/absorption properties has improved a number of applications:

- Infrared sources
- Radiative cooling
- Thermophotovoltaics (TPV)
- Perfect absorption devices
- •••











Incandescent source emitting a radiation which is:











Orléans. 5th October, 2023







#### C. **Blanchard** et al. Opt. Mat. Express (12), 2022.

Metallo-dielectric metasurfaces for thermal emission with controlled spectral bandwidth and angular aperture











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Previous realizations have an ordered textural structure

High standard **cleaning rooms**: lithography process, reactive ion etching, etc.

















Y. **Zhai** et al. Science (355), 2017 Scalable-manufactured randomized glass-polymer hybrid metamaterial for daytime radiative cooling.

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- reflects visible radiation (to minimize solar absorption)
- emits mid-IR radiation (transparency window of the atmosphere)



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Convenient absorption of silica









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Is it possible to generate functional properties by relying on **collective effects**?











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0.2

0

-0.2















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**Collective effects** 

Behavior due to electromagnetic interferences between the particles, which would not be observed for a single particle

T. Guerra, D. De Sousa Meneses, J. P. Hugonin, C. Blanchard. Part. Syst. Charac., 2100245, 2022

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Particles **much smaller** than  $\lambda$ 

**T-matrix method** 





What are the expected features of a suspension of small particles in the IR domain?











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Difficult to compete with the devices of nanophotonics, and disorder has often been viewed as a constraint.



















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Same random particulate material, but we look for the refractive index that maximalizes absorption





$$\begin{cases} r_p = 20 \text{ nm} \\ f_p = 15 \% \\ \lambda = 2 \mu \text{m} \end{cases}$$









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n = 0.0374 + 1.1225i





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reflection transmission

Impedance mismatch

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## Near perfect absorption: absorption metric

How absorption is calculated?













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If Q = 1, the particle absorbs all the light that is *incident on it* 













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This picture fails for small objects

Cem

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The critical coupling condition is not fulfilled (?)

















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Absorption and scattering cross-sections do not match

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Particles don't scatter a sufficient amount of light (?)

















Increasing the scattering rate of the system by incorporating lossless particles

T. Guerra, O. Rozenbaum, J. P. Hugonin, C. Blanchard. Phys. Rev. B (107), L220202, 2023 Generating near-perfect absorption in subwavelength slabs of nanoparticles: towards spectral selectivity in random media















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 $A \sim 70\%$ 



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 $A \sim 96\%$ 







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...though the slab is 5 times smaller than  $\lambda$ 

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$$\sigma_{\rm abs} = \sigma_{\rm sca}$$

Critical coupling at  $\lambda = 2 \ \mu m$ 

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Los







sless particles	

$f_p$	$\omega_p^{bi}$	$\gamma^{bi}~(10^{-3})$	
0.01	1.418	5.893	9
0.02	1.418	9.971	9
0.03	1.421	15.30	9
0.04	1.424	16.99	9
0.05	1.424	20.18	9
0.10	1.435	26.57	9
0.15	1.439	32.26	9

Absorbing particles  $\varepsilon_p(\omega) = 1 - \frac{\left(\omega_0 \omega_p\right)^2}{\omega^2 + i\omega\omega_0\gamma}$ 

 $n_d$ .561 .518 .499 .534.503 .607 .608



An optimized system can be found irrespective of the fill factor  $0.01 < f_p < 0.15$ 

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![](_page_62_Picture_14.jpeg)

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Strong increase of absorptance

- **Monodisperse**: reflection plateaus at 20%
- Bidisperse: continuous tendency toward a reflectionless structure

![](_page_63_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Picture_8.jpeg)

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![](_page_63_Picture_16.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Picture_6.jpeg)

Mie's theory shows branch of maximum scattering

![](_page_65_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Picture_5.jpeg)

Scattering cross-section for **one** particle

#### Angular plot for the 4 modes

![](_page_65_Figure_8.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Picture_13.jpeg)

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- Only isotropic radiations lead to absorption enhancement
- Otherwise the absorption is decreased compared to monodispersed systems

![](_page_66_Picture_4.jpeg)

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![](_page_66_Figure_10.jpeg)

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![](_page_67_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_67_Picture_5.jpeg)

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![](_page_67_Figure_10.jpeg)

Refractive index of silicon

![](_page_67_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_67_Picture_14.jpeg)

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 $@\lambda = 2 \ \mu \text{m}, \quad R \sim 220 \ \text{nm}$ 

![](_page_68_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_68_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_68_Picture_8.jpeg)

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Angular plot for the 4 modes

![](_page_68_Figure_11.jpeg)

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![](_page_68_Picture_14.jpeg)

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![](_page_69_Figure_5.jpeg)

The slab cannot be 400 nm thick. Less challenging: only the reflection channel to adjust...

![](_page_69_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_69_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_69_Picture_9.jpeg)

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![](_page_69_Figure_15.jpeg)

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![](_page_69_Picture_18.jpeg)

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![](_page_69_Picture_21.jpeg)

![](_page_69_Picture_22.jpeg)

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![](_page_70_Figure_5.jpeg)

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We want the lossless

particles to be smaller:

![](_page_70_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_70_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_70_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_70_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_70_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_70_Picture_15.jpeg)

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Angular plot for the 4 modes

![](_page_70_Figure_18.jpeg)

Refractive index of silicon

![](_page_70_Picture_21.jpeg)

![](_page_70_Picture_22.jpeg)

![](_page_70_Picture_23.jpeg)

![](_page_70_Picture_24.jpeg)

![](_page_70_Picture_25.jpeg)

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![](_page_71_Picture_8.jpeg)

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![](_page_71_Picture_9.jpeg)

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 $n \sim 9.5$  must be chosen

![](_page_71_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_71_Picture_13.jpeg)

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![](_page_71_Figure_16.jpeg)

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![](_page_71_Picture_22.jpeg)

![](_page_71_Picture_23.jpeg)
# Near perfect absorption: about the design of lossless particles

Well-designed diffusive particles is a necessary condition

But not sufficient

...they must **critically couple** with the absorbing ones







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Nais





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### Near perfect absorption: spectral selectivity

What about the spectral properties?







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## Near perfect absorption: spectral selectivity

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Spectral radiance (i.e.  $I_{\lambda} = \text{emissivity} \times B_{\lambda}$ ) vs  $\lambda$ 







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# Near perfect absorption: spectral selectivity

What about the spectral properties?

Spectral radiance (i.e.  $I_{\lambda} = \text{emissivity} \times B_{\lambda}$ ) vs  $\lambda$ 

- $\rightarrow$  Emits almost as the black body around  $\lambda = 2 \ \mu m$ . Zero emission elsewhere.
- $\rightarrow$  The quality factor can be adjusted through the fill factor  $f_p$ .











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# Thank you for your attention



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