

Dominik Schaniel (Professor, CRM2, Université de Lorraine)

D. Schaniel has a long-standing record in the study of photosensitive materials by physico-chemical methods such as diffraction/diffusion, spectroscopy, calorimetry and non-linear optics (>120 publications, 2 patents, 1 book, ~40 invited talks). He did his PhD (2002) at the Laboratory for Neutron Scattering (ETH Zurich & PSI Villigen/Switzerland)¹. In 2003 he obtained a grant from the Swiss National Science foundation to perform a 1-year postdoc in “photocrystallography” at the University of Cologne/Germany where he then continued fundamental research on projects financed by the German National science foundation (DFG) using spectroscopy and non-linear optical methods for the study of photoinduced linkage isomers. In 2006 he received the NanoFutur award from the German Ministry of Science and Education (BMBF) for a project entitled “Molecular nanoporous hybrid materials for nonlinear photonics”. This project funded with 1,6 MEuro allowed for establishing a junior research group (2 postdocs, 2 PhD students) with the goal to design and characterize porous hybrid materials based on photosensitive guest molecules for optical applications. In a further DFG project (1 postdoc) he set up a femtosecond spectroscopy laboratory in order to study the ultrafast photoisomerization in nitrosyl compounds. In 2007 he received the Max-von-Laue Award from the German Crystallographic Society for his contribution to the field of photocrystallography. He got his habilitation at the University of Cologne 2010. In 2009 he became Professor at the CRM² laboratory at the Université de Lorraine in Nancy/France. Between 2013 and 2023 he was the director of CRM² (42 permanent staff). From 2016-2022 he was member of the C10 commission (Structure and Dynamics of condensed matter) of IUPAP and from 2018 to 2022 elected representative of individual members of the European Crystallographic Associations. He has many international collaborations in the field of nano- and photocrystallography: Univ. Warsaw, LMU Munich, Universities of Cologne and Osnabrueck in Germany, TU Vienna and University of Innsbruck in Austria, PSI Villigen in Switzerland, Academy of Sciences Prague in the Czech Republic, etc. D. Schaniel has supervised several PhD students (12) and post-docs in the domain of photo- and nanocrystallography, photoswitchable (hybrid) materials and their properties and applications. In 2013 he designed and realized with 3 colleagues an exposition² (size of about 100 m²), which aims at bringing the topic of crystallography to the general public and especially also to rural areas.

¹ <https://www.research-collection.ethz.ch/handle/20.500.11850/147199>

² <http://www.escalesdessciences.fr/content/expomobile-blingbling-lart-de-scruter-la-matiere>