

Realizing the limits ...

... of sensitivity, while maintaining selectivity, is an ongoing quest. In their Communication on page 9596 ff., T. Pradeep et al. report a technique that allows for the detection of tens of molecules of trinitrotoluene (TNT) by uniquely shaped anisotropic particles called mesoflowers, which enhance the luminescence of silver clusters bound on them. TNT interacts of with the bovine serum albumin protecting the clusters, leading to luminescence quenching, and thus allowing detection.

