

# Nano Research

January · 2018

Volume 11 · Number 1



Q K 1 8 1 0 2 2 6

Engineering carbon quantum dots for photomediated theranostics

Recent advances in gas-involved *in situ* studies via transmission electron microscopy

Extraction, detection, and profiling of serum biomarkers using designed  
 $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4@\text{SiO}_2@\text{HA}$  core-shell particles

Current



TSINGHUA  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

万方数据



Springer



Project for Enhancing International  
Impact of China STM Journals

m/z

# Contents

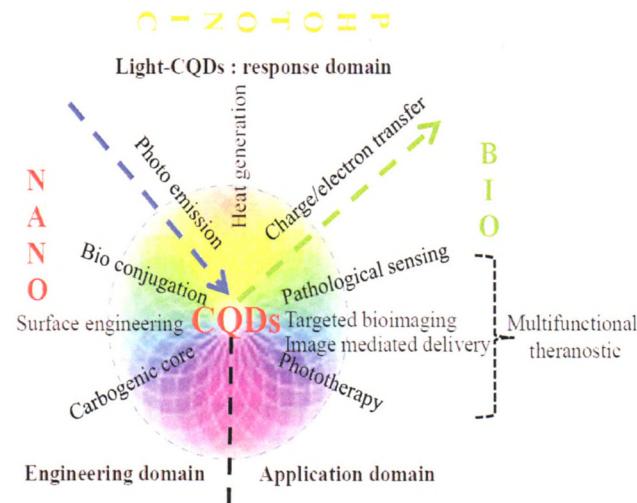
## Review Articles

### Engineering carbon quantum dots for photomediated theranostics

Mahbub Hassan, Vincent G. Gomes\*, Alireza Dehghani, and Sara M. Ardekani

The University of Sydney, Australia

1–41



This article provides a comprehensive review of the engineering of carbon quantum dots for nanobiophotonic applications. It encompasses fundamental aspects to photomediated bioapplications of carbon quantum dots, with discussions on their prospects.

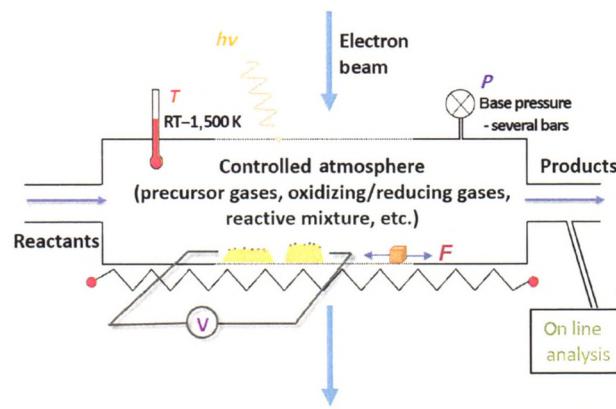
### Recent advances in gas-involved *in situ* studies via transmission electron microscopy

Ying Jiang<sup>1,2</sup>, Zhengfei Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Wentao Yuan<sup>1</sup>, Xun Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Yong Wang<sup>1,\*</sup>, and Ze Zhang<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Zhejiang University, China

<sup>2</sup> Shanghai University, China

42–67



The recent progress in research on gas–solid interactions via controlled-atmosphere transmission electron microscopy is reviewed.

## Research Articles

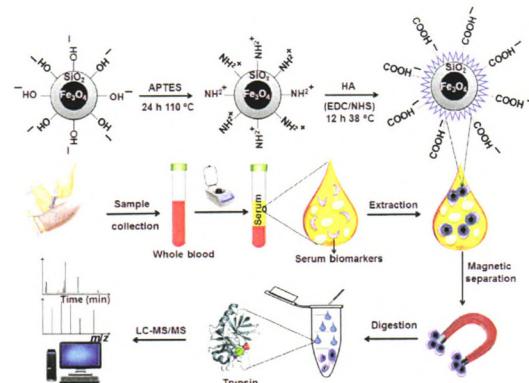
### Extraction, detection, and profiling of serum biomarkers using designed $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4@\text{SiO}_2@\text{HA}$ core–shell particles

Chandrababu Rejeeth<sup>1</sup>, Xuechao Pang<sup>1</sup>, Ru Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Wei Xu<sup>1</sup>, Xuming Sun<sup>1</sup>, Bin Liu<sup>1</sup>, Jiatao Lou<sup>1</sup>, Jingjing Wan<sup>2</sup>, Hongchen Gu<sup>1</sup>, Wei Yan<sup>1,\*</sup>, and Kun Qian<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China

<sup>2</sup> Shanghai University, China

68–79



We constructed hyaluronic acid (HA) based functional materials and device through layer-by-layer assembling. Further in combination with mass spectrometry and electrochemistry methods, we achieved efficient extraction, detection, and profiling of serum biomarkers via ligand–protein interactions.

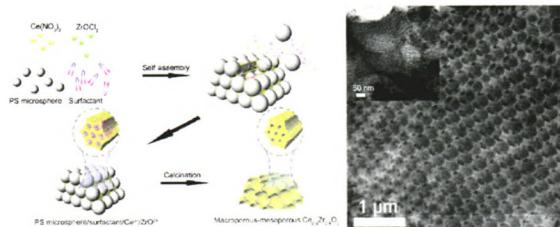
### Highly ordered macroporous–mesoporous $\text{Ce}_{0.4}\text{Zr}_{0.6}\text{O}_2$ as dual-functional material in a polysulfide polymer

Zhenxing Li<sup>1,\*</sup>, Jianzheng Zhang<sup>2,\*</sup>, Mingming Li<sup>1</sup>, Xiaofei Xing<sup>1</sup>, and Qiuyu Zhang<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> China University of Petroleum (Beijing), China

<sup>2</sup> Northwestern Polytechnical University, China

80–88



A highly hierarchically ordered microporous–mesoporous  $\text{Ce}_{0.4}\text{Zr}_{0.6}\text{O}_2$  solid solution with crystalline framework walls was directly and simply prepared using polystyrene (PS) microspheres and a block copolymer as dual templates. The PS microspheres and block copolymer were assembled into colloidal crystals and mesoscopic rod-like micelles to form macroporous and mesoporous templates, respectively, by a one-step process. The microporous–mesoporous  $\text{Ce}_{0.4}\text{Zr}_{0.6}\text{O}_2$  material significantly improved the ultraviolet resistance and mechanical performance of a polysulfide polymer.

### Low-cost disordered carbons for Li/S batteries: A highperformance carbon with dual porosity derived from cherry pits

Celia Hernández-Rentero<sup>1</sup>, Rafael Córdoba<sup>1</sup>, Noelia Moreno<sup>1</sup>, Alvaro Caballero<sup>1</sup>, Julian Morales<sup>1,\*</sup>, Mara Olivares-Marín<sup>2</sup>, and Vicente Gómez-Serrano<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Universidad de Córdoba, Spain

<sup>2</sup> Universidad de Extremadura, Spain

89–100



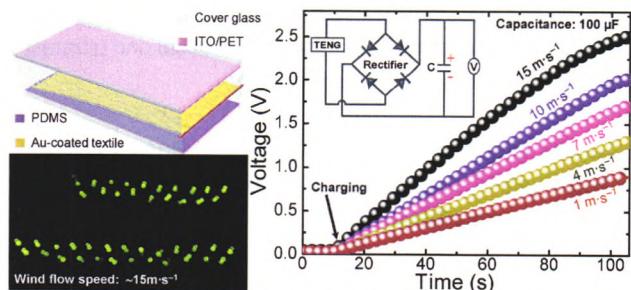
A hierarchical porous carbon (HPC) was synthesized from cherry pits using phosphoric acid as activating agent. HPC/S composite exhibits excellent performance as electrodes for Li/S batteries at both low and high rates. This outstanding property was observed without a preliminary thermal treatment of the composite and in the absence of doping elements such as N and/or S in the carbon.

## Triboelectric nanogenerators with gold-thin-film-coated conductive textile as floating electrode for scavenging wind energy

Bhaskar Dudem, Dong Hyun Kim, and Jae Su Yu\*

Kyung Hee University, Republic of Korea

101–113



A triboelectric nanogenerator (TENG) with a simple fabrication process, low cost, and light weight was developed using a highly conductive and flexible Au-coated conductive textile to scavenge wind energy. The proposed wind-based TENG (W-TENG) was also tested in the outdoor environment, confirming that it can work efficiently in an actual windy situation to convert wind energy into electricity.

## Bioluminescent nanopaper for rapid screening of toxic substances

Jie Liu<sup>1,2</sup>, Eden Morales-Narváez<sup>1</sup>, Jahir Orozco<sup>1</sup>, Teresa Vicent<sup>3</sup>, Guohua Zhong<sup>2,\*</sup>, and Arben Merkoçi<sup>1,4,\*</sup>

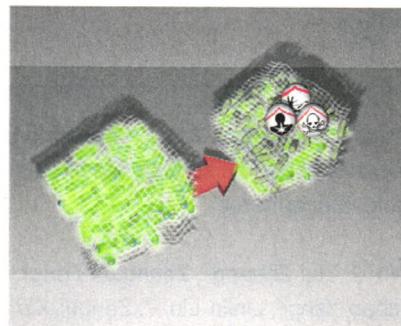
<sup>1</sup> Campus UAB, Spain

<sup>2</sup> South China Agricultural University, China

<sup>3</sup> Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain

<sup>4</sup> ICREA, Spain

114–125



A composite based on bacterial nanocellulose and the luminescent bacterium *Aliivibrio fischeri* is reported. Nanocellulose operates as both a culture scaffold and an optically transparent biosensing substrate, with the bioluminescent organism operating as a bio-indicator. This nanobiocomposite is utilized as a simple-to-fabricate and user-friendly device for toxicity detection via determination of bioluminescent inhibition caused by exposure to various contaminants.

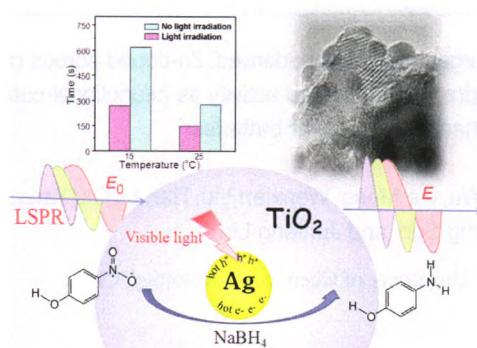
## Strongly coupled Ag/TiO<sub>2</sub> heterojunctions for effective and stable photothermal catalytic reduction of 4-nitrophenol

Ying Gu<sup>1</sup>, Yanqing Jiao<sup>2</sup>, Xiaoguang Zhou<sup>1,\*</sup>, Aiping Wu<sup>2</sup>, Bater Buhe<sup>2</sup>, and Honggang Fu<sup>2,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Northeast Forestry University, China

<sup>2</sup> Heilongjiang University, China

126–141



An easy and salable method was developed for the construction of strongly coupled Ag/TiO<sub>2</sub> heterojunctions for the effective and stable catalytic conversion of 4-nitrophenol (4-NP) into 4-aminophenol (4-AP) in the presence of NaBH<sub>4</sub>. The conversion of 4-NP into 4-AP was significantly enhanced under light irradiation. This is ascribed to the localized surface plasmon resonance effect of Ag, which generated hot e<sup>-</sup> and h<sup>+</sup> particles under light irradiation and local heating around the particles via their absorption of the light.

**Hybridized electronic states between CdSe nanoparticles and conjugated organic ligands: A theoretical and ultrafast photo-excited carrier dynamics study**

Tersilla Virgili<sup>1,\*</sup>, Arrigo Calzolari<sup>2</sup>, Inma Suárez López<sup>1</sup>, Alice Ruini<sup>2,3</sup>, Alessandra Catellani<sup>2</sup>, Barbara Vercelli<sup>4</sup>, and Francesco Tassone<sup>5,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> IFN-CNR, Italy

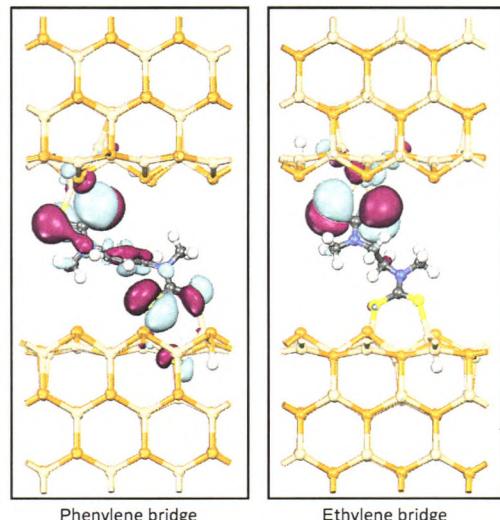
<sup>2</sup> Istituto Nanoscienze CNR-NANO-S3, Italy

<sup>3</sup> Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Italy

<sup>4</sup> ICMATE-CNR SS di Milano, Italy

<sup>5</sup> Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia, Italy

142–150



Theoretical model of hybridized states between nanoparticles (NPs) and organic ligands confirm the experimental pump-and-probe observation and explain the large observed photocurrents.

**Simultaneous red–green–blue electroluminescent enhancement directed by surface plasmonic “far-field” of facile gold nanospheres**

Xiaoyan Wu<sup>1,3</sup>, Yiqi Zhuang<sup>1</sup>, Zhongtao Feng<sup>1</sup>, Xuehong Zhou<sup>1</sup>, Yuzhao Yang<sup>2</sup>, Linlin Liu<sup>1,\*</sup>, Zengqi Xie<sup>1</sup>, Xudong Chen<sup>2</sup>, and Yuguang Ma<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> South China University of Technology, China

<sup>2</sup> Sun Yat-sen University, China

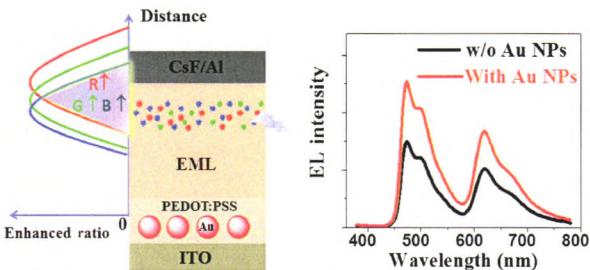
<sup>3</sup> China Academy of Engineering Physics, China

151–162

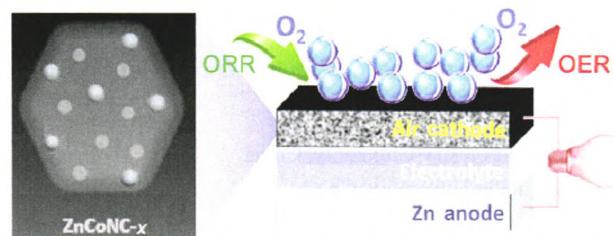
**Metal-organic framework-derived, Zn-doped porous carbon polyhedra with enhanced activity as bifunctional catalysts for rechargeable zinc-air batteries**

Xuan Wu, Ge Meng, Wenxian Liu, Tian Li, Qiu Yang, Xiaoming Sun, and Junfeng Liu\*

Beijing University of Chemical Technology, China



Simultaneous red–green–blue electroluminescence enhancement by the “far-field” effect of facile synthesized gold nanospheres in white polymer light-emitting diodes was realized in this work. Yield enhancement is achieved in more than 95% devices with the best enhancing ratio of 60%.



Porous carbon polyhedra (ZnCoNC) were fabricated using Zn-doped, Co-based metal-organic frameworks as precursors. Doping with Zn species reduces the Co nanoparticle size and increases the nitrogen content of the products, endowing the as-prepared ZnCoNC with enhanced oxygen reduction reaction (ORR) and oxygen evolution reaction (OER) electrocatalytic activity in alkaline media, thus making them promising cathode materials for zinc-air batteries.

163–173

## Graphene quantum dots derived from hollow carbon nano-onions

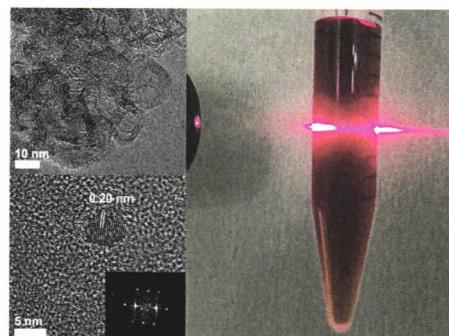
Chenguang Zhang<sup>1,3</sup>, Jiajun Li<sup>2</sup>, Xianshun Zeng<sup>1</sup>, Zhihao Yuan<sup>1,3,\*</sup>, and Naiqin Zhao<sup>2,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Tianjin University of Technology, China

<sup>2</sup> Tianjin University, China

<sup>3</sup> Tianjin Key Lab for Photoelectric Materials & Devices, China

174–184



Hollow carbon nano-onions (CNOs) are preferred precursors for the synthesis of graphene quantum dots (GQDs) with a uniform size distribution, whereas metal encapsulation in the CNO structure is disadvantageous for the same. Furthermore, acid oxidation of hollow CNOs can result in GQDs with a yellow-green hybrid luminescence and long excitation wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ )-ranged  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ -independent photoluminescent (PL) behavior, in which the  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}$  upper limit is 480 nm. This enables sensing and cell imaging under visible light excitation with no need for UV excitation.

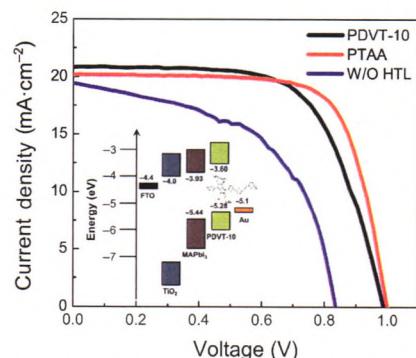
## Highly $\pi$ -extended copolymer as additive-free holetransport material for perovskite solar cells

Jie Liu<sup>1,2</sup>, Qianqing Ge<sup>1,2</sup>, Weifeng Zhang<sup>1,2</sup>, Jingyuan Ma<sup>1,2</sup>, Jie Ding<sup>1,2</sup>, Gui Yu<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, and Jinsong Hu<sup>1,2,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institute of Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

<sup>2</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

185–194



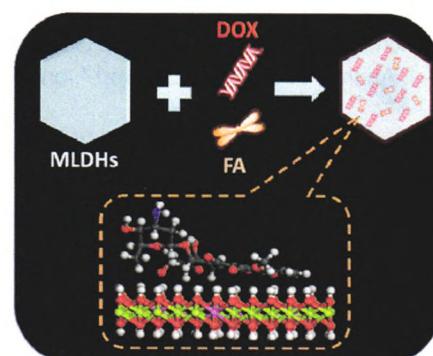
A polythiophene-based copolymer (PDVT-10) with a hole mobility up to  $8.2 \text{ cm}^2 \cdot \text{V}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$  and a highest occupied molecular orbital level of  $-5.28 \text{ eV}$  is used as a hole-transport layer for perovskite solar cells for the first time. The new additive-free hole-transport material exhibits better photovoltaic performance than poly(triarylamine)-based devices and can function as an encapsulation layer for  $\text{NH}_3\text{CH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  to maintain long-term stability.

## Layered double hydroxide monolayers for controlled loading and targeted delivery of anticancer drugs

Xuan Mei, Simin Xu, Tongyang Hu, Liuqi Peng, Rui Gao, Ruizheng Liang\*, Min Wei\*, David G. Evans, and Xue Duan

Beijing University of Chemical Technology, China

195–205



Monolayered double hydroxide (MLDH) nanosheets with a high specific surface area are prepared and serve as a drug carrier for the chemotherapeutic agent doxorubicin with an extremely large loading capacity and controllable release.

## Energy-driven surface evolution in beta-MnO<sub>2</sub> structures

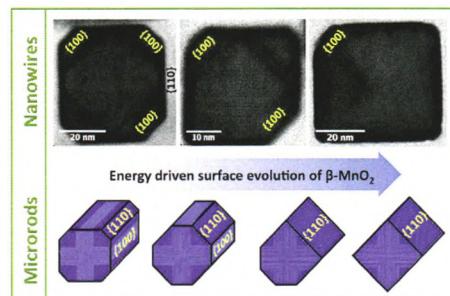
Wentao Yao<sup>1</sup>, Yifei Yuan<sup>2,3</sup>, Hasti Asayesh-Ardakani<sup>1</sup>, Zhennan Huang<sup>3</sup>, Fei Long<sup>1</sup>, Craig R. Friedrich<sup>1</sup>, Khalil Amine<sup>2</sup>, Jun Lu<sup>2,\*</sup>, and Reza Shahbazian-Yassar<sup>1,3,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Michigan Technological University, USA

<sup>2</sup> Argonne National Laboratory, USA

<sup>3</sup> The University of Illinois at Chicago, USA

206–215



The energy-controlled lateral surface evolution in  $\beta\text{-MnO}_2$  nanowires and microrods followed the elimination of  $\{100\}$  facets and the increased occupancy of  $\{110\}$  facets.

## Facile growth of homogeneous Ni(OH)<sub>2</sub> coating on carbon nanosheets for high-performance asymmetric supercapacitor applications

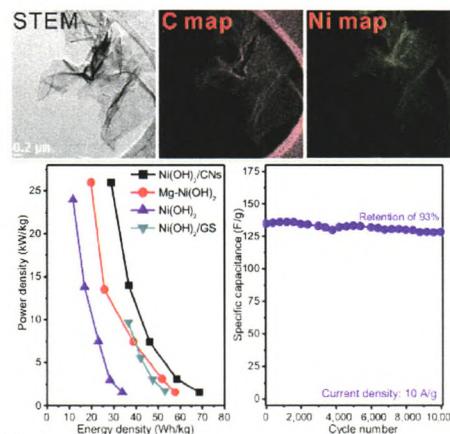
Mingjiang Xie<sup>1</sup>, Zhicheng Xu<sup>1</sup>, Shuyi Duan<sup>1</sup>, Zhengfang Tian<sup>1,2</sup>, Yu Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Kun Xiang<sup>1</sup>, Ming Lin<sup>3</sup>, Xuefeng Guo<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, and Weiping Ding<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Nanjing University, China

<sup>2</sup> Huanggang Normal University, China

<sup>3</sup> Institute of Materials Research and Engineering (IMRE), Singapore

216–224



A homogeneous  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2$  coating was grown on carbon nanosheets by a facile ion-exchange reaction, via the *in situ* transformation of  $\text{MgO/C}$  to  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{C}$ . The obtained  $\text{Ni(OH)}_2/\text{C}$  composite exhibits superior performances as an asymmetric supercapacitor, with a large capacity (198 F/g), high energy density (56.7 Wh/kg at 4.0 kW/kg), and excellent cycling stability, with 93% capacity retention after 10,000 cycles.

## Strain-induced band gap engineering in layered TiS<sub>3</sub>

Robert Biele<sup>1,\*</sup>, Eduardo Flores<sup>2</sup>, Jose Ramón Ares<sup>2</sup>, Carlos Sanchez<sup>2,3</sup>, Isabel J. Ferrer<sup>2,3</sup>, Gabino Rubio-Bollinger<sup>2,3</sup>, Andres Castellanos-Gomez<sup>4,\*</sup>, and Roberto D'Agosta<sup>1,5,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Universidad del País Vasco, Spain

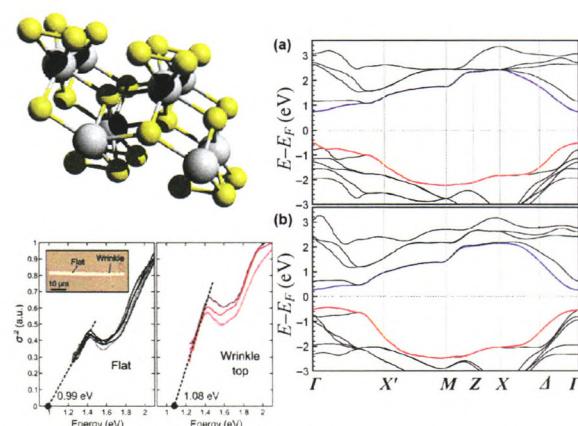
<sup>2</sup> Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain

<sup>3</sup> Instituto de Ciencia de Materiales "Nicolás Cabrera", Spain

<sup>4</sup> Instituto de Ciencia de los Materiales de Madrid (ICMM-CSIC), Spain

<sup>5</sup> IKERBASQUE, Basque Foundation for Science, Spain

225–232



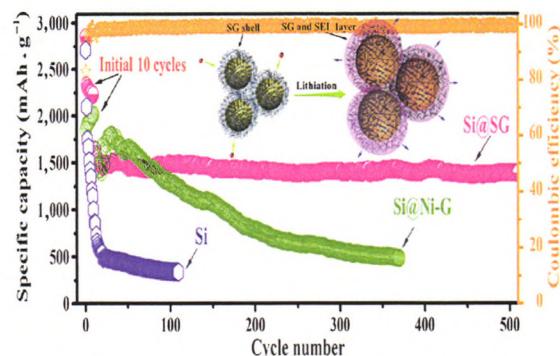
The band gap of titanium trisulfide is extremely sensitive to the application of uniaxial strain, especially in the facile transport direction. Moreover, for large enough strain (but still within the elastic limit) the nature of the band gap changes from direct to indirect, with strong implications for the potential application of these materials in optical devices.

**Three-dimensional spongy nanographene-functionalized silicon anodes for lithium ion batteries with superior cycling stability**

Chunfei Zhang, Tong-Hyun Kang, and Jong-Sung Yu\*

DGIST, Republic of Korea

233–245



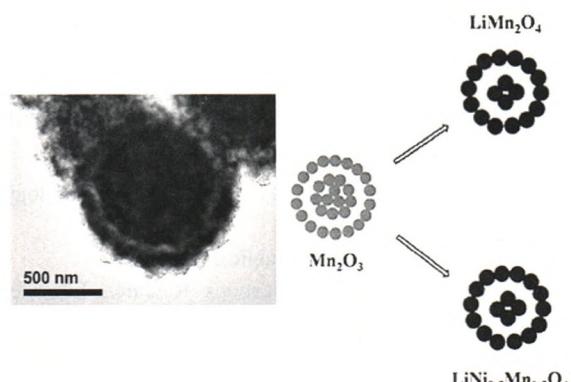
An innovative three-dimensional sponge-like nanographene (SG) shell is designed and applied on a silicon substrate, resulting in a Si@SG hybrid with unique properties, suitable to overcome the main issues affecting the application of silicon in lithium ion batteries. Electrodes based on the novel Si@SG hybrids achieve excellent electrochemical performance in terms of long-term cycling stability and rate performance at different current densities.

**Scalable and general synthesis of spinel manganese-based cathodes with hierarchical yolk–shell structure and superior lithium storage properties**

Yu Wu, Junting Zhang, and Chuanbao Cao\*

Beijing Institute of Technology, China

246–253



Spinel manganese-based cathodes with a hierarchical yolk–shell structure were prepared via a simple and scalable morphology-inheritance strategy. The as-prepared materials exhibit superior lithium storage properties as cathodes of lithium ion batteries.

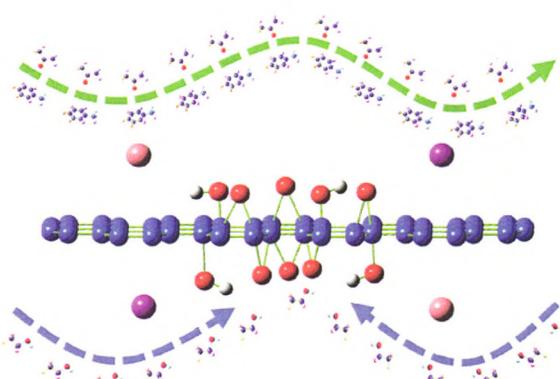
**Theoretical investigations of transport properties of organic solvents in cation-functionalized graphene oxide membranes: Implications for drug delivery**

Kai Song<sup>1</sup>, Yong Long<sup>2</sup>, Xun Wang<sup>2,\*</sup>, and Gang Zhou<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Beijing University of Chemical Technology, China

<sup>2</sup> Tsinghua University, China

254–263



The solvent–cation interaction dominates directional transport of organic solvent in the alkali and alkaline earth cation-decorated graphene oxide (M-GO) membranes by the site-to-site mechanism. The competition between energy consumption by the solvent–cation interaction and energy expenditure by the solvent–epoxy (–hydroxyl) interaction enables the M-GO membranes with the selective permeability to a wide range of solvents.

## Ultrasensitive detection of cancer biomarker microRNA by amplification of fluorescence of lanthanide nanoprobes

Lianyu Lu<sup>1,2</sup>, Datao Tu<sup>2,\*</sup>, Yan Liu<sup>2</sup>, Shanyong Zhou<sup>2</sup>, Wei Zheng<sup>2</sup>, and Xueyuan Chen<sup>1,2,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Fuzhou University, China

<sup>2</sup> Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

264–273

## Graphene electrode with tunable charge transport in thin-film transistors

Ick-Joon Park<sup>1</sup>, Tae In Kim<sup>1</sup>, In-Tak Cho<sup>2</sup>, Chang-Woo Song<sup>3</sup>, Ji-Woong Yang<sup>3</sup>, Hongkeun Park<sup>1</sup>, Woo-Seok Cheong<sup>3</sup>, Sung Gap Im<sup>4</sup>, Jong-Ho Lee<sup>2</sup>, and Sung-Yool Choi<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), Republic of Korea

<sup>2</sup> Seoul National University, Republic of Korea

<sup>3</sup> Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute, Republic of Korea

274–286

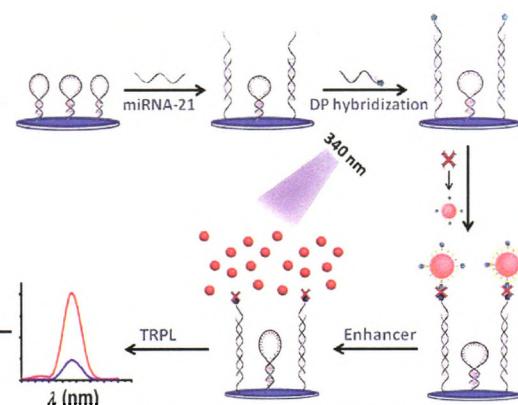
## Egg-like magnetically immobilized nanospheres: A longlived catalyst model for the hydrogen transfer reaction in a continuous-flow reactor

Yongjian Ai<sup>1,2</sup>, Zenan Hu<sup>1</sup>, Zixing Shao<sup>2</sup>, Li Qi<sup>1</sup>, Lei Liu<sup>1</sup>, Junjie Zhou<sup>1</sup>, Hongbin Sun<sup>1,\*</sup>, and Qionglin Liang<sup>2,\*</sup>

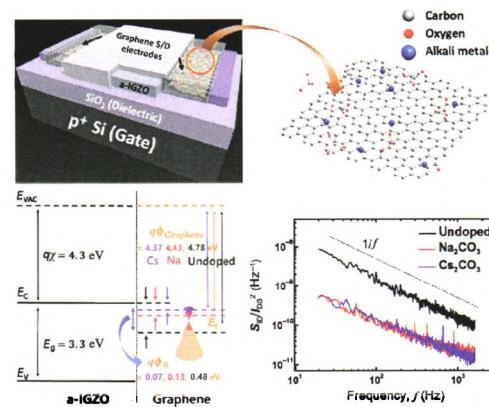
<sup>1</sup> Northeastern University, China

<sup>2</sup> Tsinghua University, China

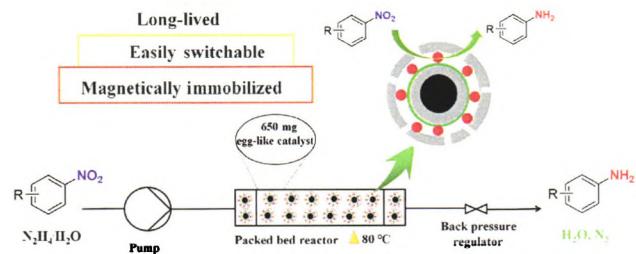
287–299



We demonstrate application of a strategy based on nanoprobe dissolution-enhanced fluorescence amplification combined with a reconstructive molecular beacon for sensitive and specific detection of cancer biomarker microRNA.



We systematically investigate the tunable charge transport in n-channel thin film transistors by n-type doping of graphene electrodes with alkali metal carbonates, which effectively controls the carrier injection from graphene to the channel material, and results in improved electrical characteristics in the devices. Furthermore, the level of contact noise originating from the barrier height fluctuation is analyzed by low-frequency 1/f noise measurements for the first time to understand the tunable charge transport mechanism.



An egg-like  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4@n\text{SiO}_2-\text{NH}_2-\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3\cdot x\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3@m\text{SiO}_2$  magnetically immobilized nanocatalyst was developed to reduce nitroarenes. The active species,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3\cdot x\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ , was immobilized on the magnetic silica sphere and further encapsulated with a mesoporous silica shell; thus, the catalyst showed such a long lifetime that it maintained its activity for more than 1,500 cycles in a packed-bed continuous microreactor.

## Carbon nanotube network film-based ring oscillators with sub 10-ns propagation time and their applications in radio-frequency signal transmission

Yingjun Yang, Li Ding, Hengjia Chen, Jie Han, Zhiyong Zhang\*, and Lian-Mao Peng\*

Peking University, China

300–310

## Design of dual metal ions/dual amino acids integrated photoluminescent logic gate by high-molecular weight protein-localized Au nanoclusters

Liu Liu, Hui Jiang\*, and Xuemei Wang\*

Southeast University, China

311–322

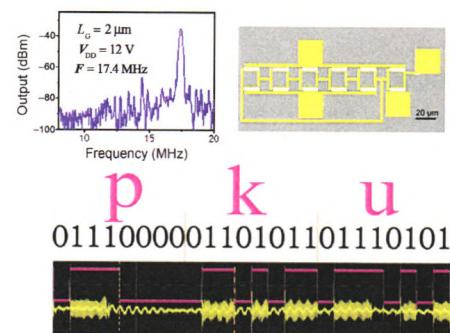
## Electrosynthesis of $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$ and $\text{Co}(\text{OH})_2$ ultrathin nanosheet arrays for efficient electrocatalytic water splitting in alkaline and neutral media

Lin Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Bingrui Liu<sup>1</sup>, Ning Zhang<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, and Mingming Ma<sup>1,\*</sup>

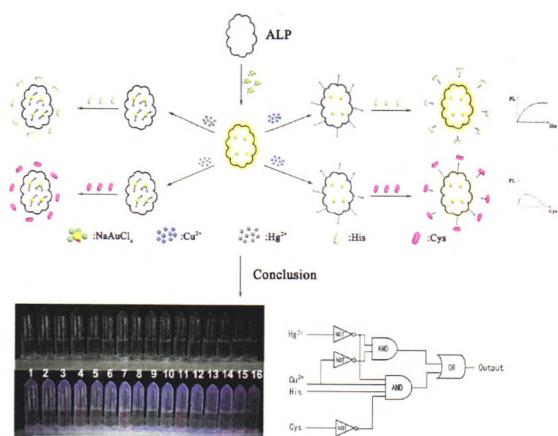
<sup>1</sup> University of Science and Technology of China, China

<sup>2</sup> Hefei University, China

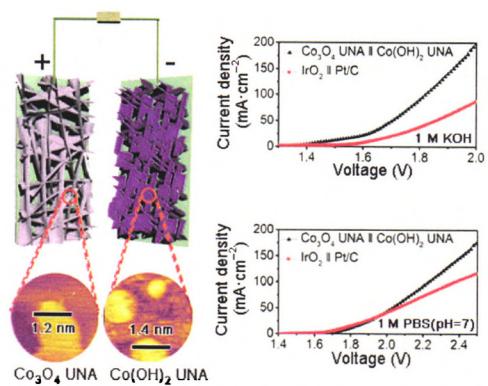
323–333



We report high-performance field-effect transistors based on solution-derived carbon nanotube films and explore their applications in radio-frequency integrated circuits. The oscillation frequency of the optimized five-stage ring oscillator (RO) based on carbon nanotube film is up to 17.4 MHz. The ROs are used as carrier-wave generators in radio-frequency systems to demonstrate a complete signal transmission process, which suggests that carbon nanotube (CNT) thin-film electronics may soon find their way to radio-frequency applications.



An integrated logic gate was fabricated based on the photoluminescent response of alkaline phosphatase-coated Au nanoclusters to dual metal ions/dual amino acids.



We report a simple electrodeposition method for synthesizing  $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$  and  $\text{Co}(\text{OH})_2$  ultrathin nanosheet arrays (UNA) without templates or surfactants; the  $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$  and  $\text{Co}(\text{OH})_2$  UNA exhibit high activity for oxygen and hydrogen evolution reactions, respectively, in both alkaline and neutral media.

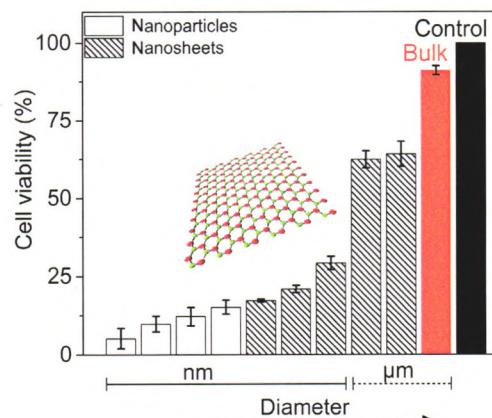
## Biocompatibility of boron nitride nanosheets

Srikanth Mateti<sup>1</sup>, Cynthia S. Wong<sup>1</sup>, Zhen Liu<sup>1</sup>, Wenrong Yang<sup>1</sup>, Yuncang Li<sup>2</sup>, Lu Hua Li<sup>1</sup>, and Ying Chen<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Deakin University, Australia

<sup>2</sup> RMIT University, Australia

334–342



The biocompatibility of boron nitride (BN) nanosheets was evaluated using osteoblast-like cells ( $\text{SaOS}_2$ ). The biocompatibility of BN nanomaterials depends on their size, shape, structure, and surface chemical properties.

## High-yield synthesis and liquid-exfoliation of two-dimensional belt-like hafnium disulphide

Harneet Kaur<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Sandeep Yadav<sup>3</sup>, Avanish K. Srivastava<sup>1</sup>, Nidhi Singh<sup>1</sup>, Shyama Rath<sup>4</sup>, Jörg J. Schneider<sup>3</sup>, Om P. Sinha<sup>5</sup>, and Ritu Srivastava<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India

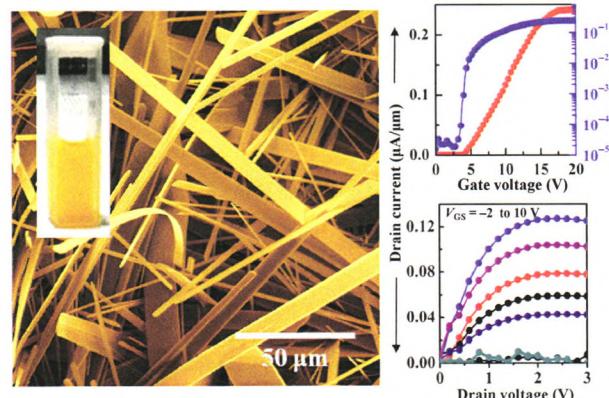
<sup>2</sup> NPL, India

<sup>3</sup> Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany

<sup>4</sup> University of Delhi, India

<sup>5</sup> Amity University UP, India

343–353



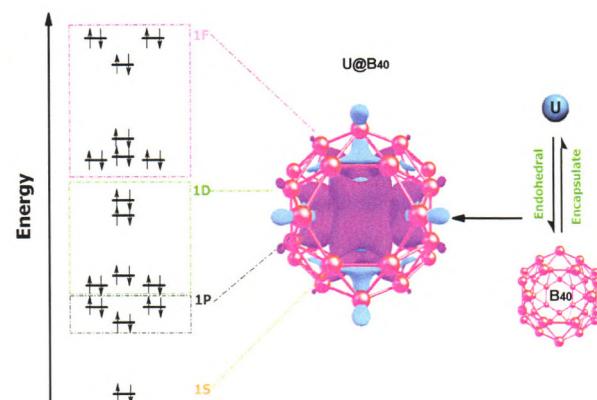
A simple chemical-vapor transport route is demonstrated to synthesize layered belt-like nano-crystals of hafnium disulphide followed by liquid-phase exfoliation to produce stable few-layer nanosheets for electronic applications.

## Actinide endohedral boron clusters: A closed-shell electronic structure of $\text{U}@\text{B}_{40}$

Tianrong Yu, Yang Gao, Dexuan Xu, and Zhigang Wang\*

Jilin University, China

354–359



Molecular orbital energy levels and electron density difference map of  $\text{U}@\text{B}_{40}$  indicate strong covalent bonding.

**The role of water in methane adsorption and diffusion within nanoporous silica investigated by hyperpolarized  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  and  $^1\text{H}$  PFG NMR spectroscopy**

Yuanli Hu<sup>1,2</sup>, Mingrun Li<sup>1</sup>, Guangjin Hou<sup>1</sup>, Shutao Xu<sup>1</sup>, Ke Gong<sup>1,2</sup>, Xianchun Liu<sup>1</sup>, Xiuwen Han<sup>1</sup>, Xiulian Pan<sup>1,\*</sup>, and Xinhe Bao<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

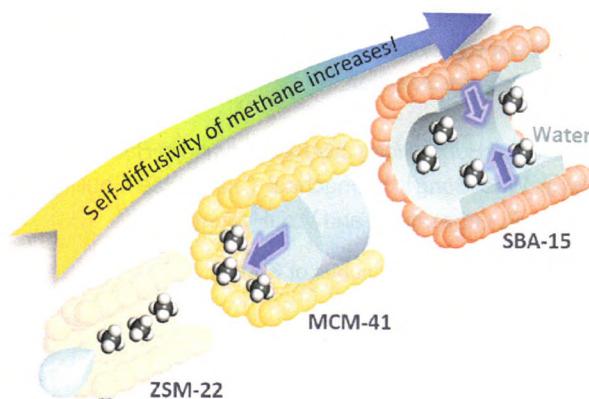
<sup>2</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

360–369

**Pristine mesoporous carbon hollow spheres as safe adjuvants induce excellent Th2-biased immune response**

Manasi Jambhrunkar, Meihua Yu, Hongwei Zhang, Prasanna Abbaraju, Anand Kumar Meka, Antonino Cavallaro, Yao Lu, Neena Mitter\*, and Chengzhong Yu\*

The University of Queensland, Australia



Silica materials with one-dimensional pores, ZSM-22, MCM-41, and SBA-15, were chosen to model the inorganic nanopores in shale. Water adsorption does not affect the pore size of ZSM-22 and MCM-41 zeolites, and hence has little influence on the self-diffusivity of methane. However, water reduces the pore size of SBA-15, which retards diffusion of methane.

370–382

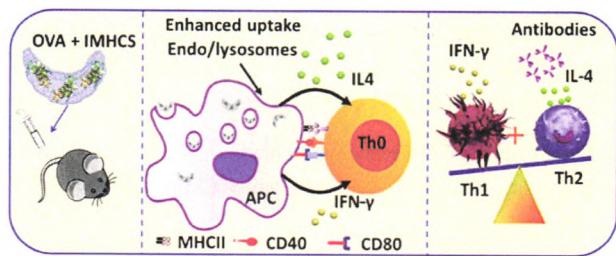
**Spermine induced reversible collapse of deoxyribonucleic acid-bridged nanoparticle-based assemblies**

Kristian L. Göeken<sup>1</sup>, Richard B. M. Schasfoort<sup>1</sup>, Vinod Subramaniam<sup>1,2</sup>, and Ron Gill<sup>1,3,\*</sup>

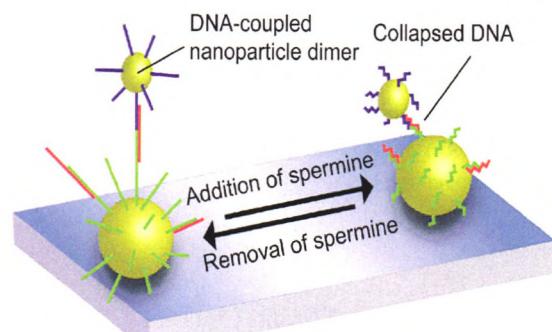
<sup>1</sup> University of Twente, the Netherlands

<sup>2</sup> Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands

<sup>3</sup> Saxion University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands



Mesoporous hollow carbon spheres with a high antigen loading capacity, enhanced uptake by antigen presenting cells (APCs), and an excellent safety profile are an effective adjuvant for stimulating the immune response in a Th2-biased manner.



Distances in DNA-bound nanoparticle assemblies can be reversibly modulated using spermine-induced DNA collapse. This allows dynamic nanometer-scale movement by reducing the nanoparticle gap size to less than 15% of the original size, resulting in strong plasmon-plasmon coupling.

383–396

**Prolonged and highly efficient intracellular extraction of photosynthetic electrons from single algal cells by optimized nanoelectrode insertion**

Hyonaug Hong<sup>1</sup>, Yong Jae Kim<sup>1</sup>, Myungjin Han<sup>1</sup>, Gu Yoo<sup>1</sup>, Hyun Woo Song<sup>1</sup>, Youngcheol Chae<sup>1</sup>, Jae-Chul Pyun<sup>1</sup>, Arthur R. Grossman<sup>2</sup>, and WonHyoung Ryu<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Yonsei University, Republic of Korea

<sup>2</sup> Stanford University, USA

397–409

**Strong and stiff Ag nanowire-chitosan composite films reinforced by Ag–S covalent bonds**

Xiao-Feng Pan<sup>1</sup>, Huai-Ling Gao<sup>2</sup>, Yang Su<sup>1</sup>, Ya-Dong Wu<sup>1</sup>, Xiang-Ying Wang<sup>1</sup>, Jing-Zhe Xue<sup>2</sup>, Tao He<sup>1</sup>, Yang Lu<sup>1,\*</sup>, Jian-Wei Liu<sup>2</sup>, and Shu-Hong Yu<sup>2,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Hefei University of Technology, China

<sup>2</sup> University of Science and Technology of China, China

410–419

**Layered material GeSe and vertical GeSe/MoS<sub>2</sub> p-n heterojunctions**

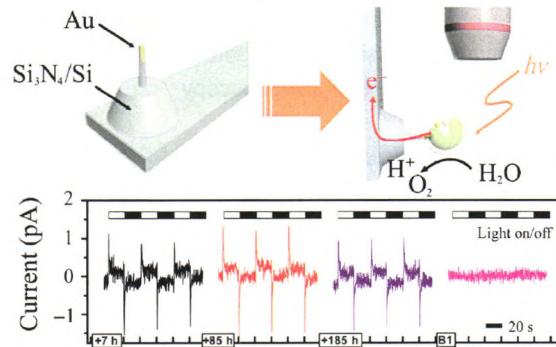
Wui Chung Yap<sup>1</sup>, Zhengfeng Yang<sup>1</sup>, Mehrshad Mehboudi<sup>2</sup>, Jia-An Yan<sup>3</sup>, Salvador Barraza-Lopez<sup>2</sup>, and Wenjuan Zhu<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA

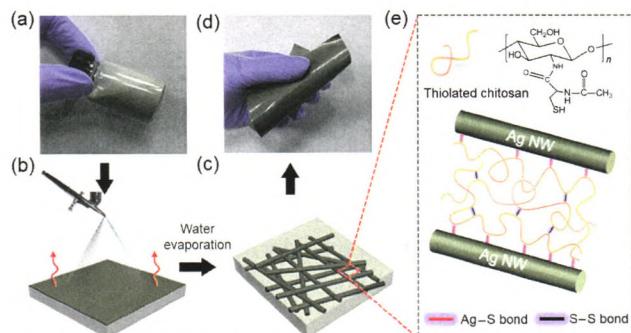
<sup>2</sup> University of Arkansas, USA

<sup>3</sup> Towson University, USA

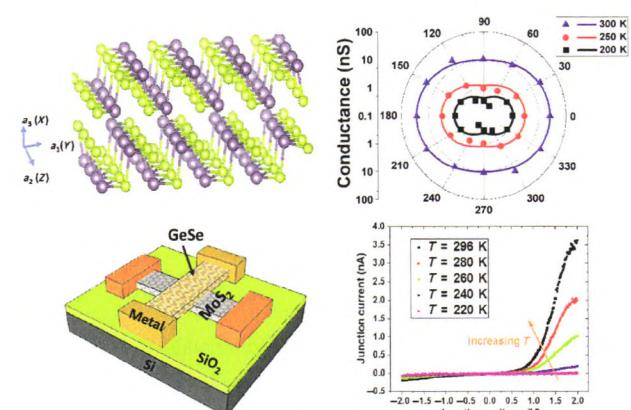
420–430



A cantilever nanoelectrode (CNE) system for directly extracting photosynthetic electrons from single algal cells is developed. The CNE system enables *in situ* cell insertion analysis as well as prolonged and highly efficient harvesting of photosynthetic electrons.



Silver nanowire (NW)-reinforced chitosan (CS) and thiolated chitosan (TCS) films were fabricated by a facile spray induced self-assembly process, in which the films are reinforced by Ag–S covalent bonds. The tensile strength of the optimized Ag NW-TCS film was up to 3.9 and 1.5 times higher than that of pure TCS and Ag NW-CS films.



Transport properties of GeSe and its heterostructures with MoS<sub>2</sub> were investigated both experimentally and theoretically. GeSe exhibits a markedly anisotropic electronic transport, with maximum conductance along the armchair direction. Density functional theory calculations reveal that the effective mass is 2.7 times larger along the zigzag direction than the armchair direction. The temperature dependence of the currents in GeSe/MoS<sub>2</sub> heterojunction reveal that GeSe and MoS<sub>2</sub> have a type-II band alignment with a conduction band offset of ~ 0.234 eV.

### Fabrication of rigid and flexible $\text{SrGe}_4\text{O}_9$ nanotube-based sensors for room-temperature ammonia detection

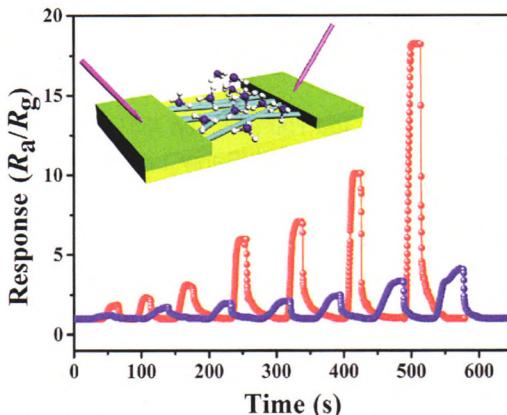
Tingting Huang<sup>1,2</sup>, Zheng Lou<sup>2</sup>, Shuai Chen<sup>1,2</sup>, Rui Li<sup>1,2</sup>, Kai Jiang<sup>3</sup>, Di Chen<sup>1,\*</sup>, and Guozhen Shen<sup>2,4,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Science and Technology Beijing, China

<sup>2</sup> Institute of Semiconductors, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

<sup>3</sup> Chinese PLA General Hospital, China

<sup>4</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China



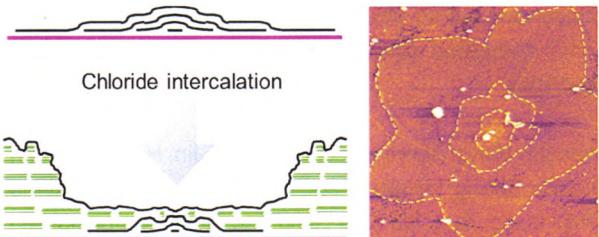
Polycrystalline  $\text{SrGe}_4\text{O}_9$  nanotubes were prepared to fabricate high-performance rigid, flexible gas sensors for detecting ammonia at room temperature.

431–439

### Chloride-intercalated continuous chemical vapor deposited graphene film with discrete adlayers

Qiao Chen, Li Zhang, and Hongwei Zhu\*

Tsinghua University, China



Iron chloride flake crystals integrate with a graphene surface and are intercalated between graphene adlayers. Thus, heavy doping of graphene is achieved.

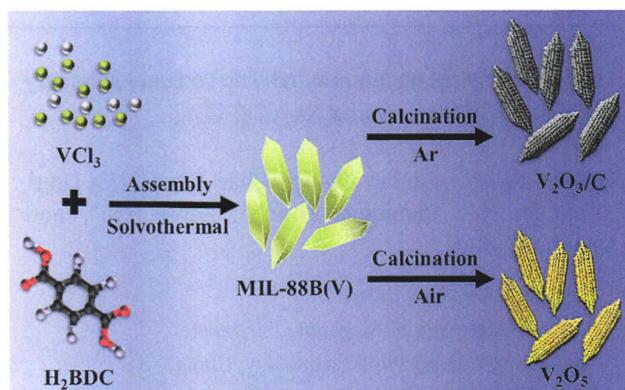
440–448

### Metal-organic framework-derived porous shuttle-like vanadium oxides for sodium-ion battery application

Yangsheng Cai<sup>1</sup>, Guozhao Fang<sup>1</sup>, Jiang Zhou<sup>1,\*</sup>, Sainan Liu<sup>1</sup>, Zhigao Luo<sup>1</sup>, Anqiang Pan<sup>1,\*</sup>, Guozhong Cao<sup>2</sup>, and Shuquan Liang<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Central South University, China

<sup>2</sup> University of Washington, USA



Porous shuttle-like vanadium oxides (i.e.,  $\text{V}_2\text{O}_5$ ,  $\text{V}_2\text{O}_3/\text{C}$ ) were prepared by using MIL-88B (V) as precursors with a specific calcination process. The derived  $\text{V}_2\text{O}_3/\text{C}$  exhibited excellent electrochemical performance as an anode material for sodium-ion batteries.

449–463

## Intracellular *in situ* labeling of TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles for fluorescence microscopy detection

Koshonna Brown<sup>1</sup>, Ted Thurn<sup>1,†</sup>, Lun Xin<sup>1</sup>, William Liu<sup>1,‡</sup>, Remon Bazak<sup>1,||</sup>, Si Chen<sup>2</sup>, Barry Lai<sup>2</sup>, Stefan Vogt<sup>2</sup>, Chris Jacobsen<sup>3</sup>, Tatjana Paunesku<sup>1</sup>, and Gayle E. Woloschak<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Northwestern University, USA

<sup>2</sup> Argonne National Laboratory, USA

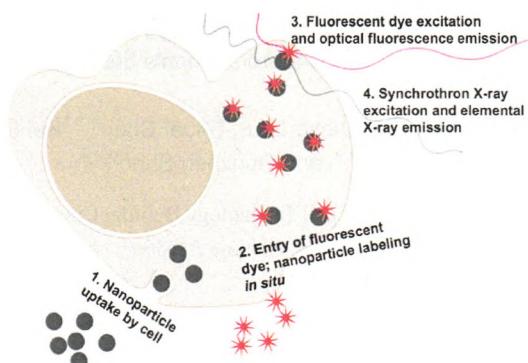
<sup>3</sup> Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, USA

† Present Address: U.S. Department of State, USA

‡ Present Address: Food and Drug Administration, USA

|| Present Address: Azarita Medical Campus, Egypt

464–476



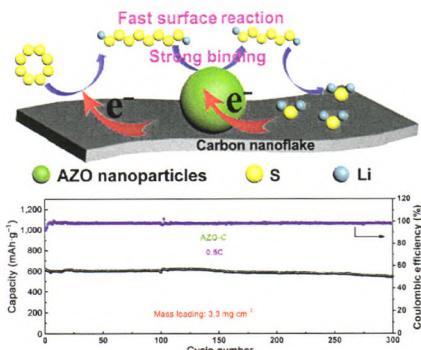
TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles have low natural contrast; two novel ways to label them *in situ* to enable optical microscopy were developed, based on standard tools used in cell biology. In each case, visible fluorescence was achieved *in situ* in cells fixed after nanoparticle uptake. Specificity of labeling was confirmed by X-ray fluorescence microscopy.

## Enhanced sulfide chemisorption by conductive Al-doped ZnO decorated carbon nanoflakes for advanced Li–S batteries

Yangbo Kong, Jianmin Luo, Chengbin Jin, Huadong Yuan, Ouwei Sheng, Liyuan Zhang, Cong Fang, Wenkui Zhang, Hui Huang, Yang Xia, Chu Liang, Jun Zhang, Yongping Gan, and Xinyong Tao\*

Zhejiang University of Technology, China

477–489



Aluminium-doped zinc oxide (AZO@C) nanocomposites have been successfully synthesized through a facile biotemplating method using kapok fibers as both the template and carbon source. When applied in Li–S batteries, the corresponding cathodes showed excellent electrochemical performance owing to the high conductivity of AZO, which can effectively suppress the shuttle effect of lithium polysulfides (LiPSs), and increase the LiPSs conversion and Li<sub>2</sub>S precipitation rates.

## High-performance aqueous symmetric sodium-ion battery using NASICON-structured Na<sub>2</sub>V<sub>1-x</sub>Ti<sub>x</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>

Hongbo Wang<sup>1</sup>, Tianran Zhang<sup>2</sup>, Chao Chen<sup>3</sup>, Min Ling<sup>4</sup>, Zhan Lin<sup>1,3,\*</sup>, Shanqing Zhang<sup>4</sup>, Feng Pan<sup>5</sup>, and Chengdu Liang<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Zhejiang University, China

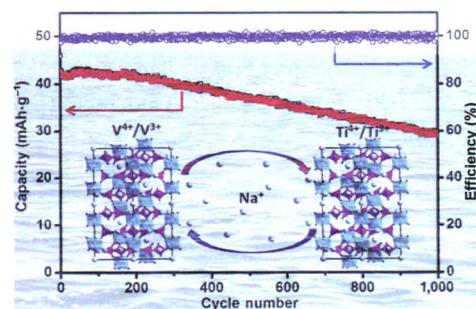
<sup>2</sup> National University of Singapore, Singapore

<sup>3</sup> Guangdong University of Technology, China

<sup>4</sup> Griffith University, Australia

<sup>5</sup> Peking University, China

490–498



An aqueous sodium-ion battery is fabricated using a single NASICON-structured Na<sub>2</sub>V<sub>1-x</sub>Ti<sub>x</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub> material with the redox couples of V<sup>4+</sup>/V<sup>3+</sup> and Ti<sup>4+</sup>/Ti<sup>3+</sup> working on the cathode and anode, respectively. The high-safety and low-cost symmetric full-cell exhibits an impressive cyclability suitable for applications in stationary batteries.

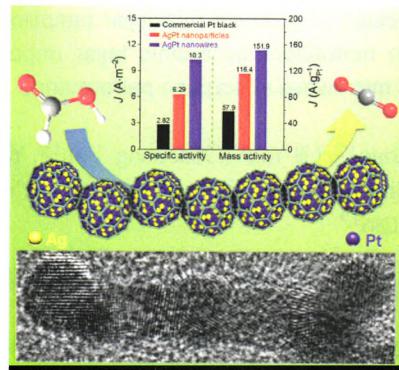
## Ultrathin AgPt alloy nanowires as a high-performance electrocatalyst for formic acid oxidation

Xian Jiang<sup>1</sup>, Gengtao Fu<sup>1</sup>, Xia Wu<sup>1</sup>, Yang Liu<sup>1</sup>, Mingyi Zhang<sup>2</sup>, Dongmei Sun<sup>1</sup>, Lin Xu<sup>1,\*</sup>, and Yawen Tang<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Nanjing Normal University, China

<sup>2</sup> Harbin Normal University, China

499–510



Ultrathin AgPt alloy nanowires are successfully achieved with a high yield and uniformity by a facile hydrothermal synthetic strategy. Due to the alloyed composition and one-dimensional (1D) structure, the ultrathin AgPt nanowires exhibit a superior electrocatalytic activity and better CO tolerance for the formic acid oxidation reaction than AgPt nanoparticles or a commercial Pt black catalyst.

## Fiber gas sensor-integrated smart face mask for room-temperature distinguishing of target gases

Zhiyi Gao<sup>1,2</sup>, Zheng Lou<sup>2</sup>, Shuai Chen<sup>2</sup>, La Li<sup>2</sup>, Kai Jiang<sup>3</sup>, Zuoling Fu<sup>1,\*</sup>, Wei Han<sup>1,\*</sup>, and Guozhen Shen<sup>2,4,\*</sup>

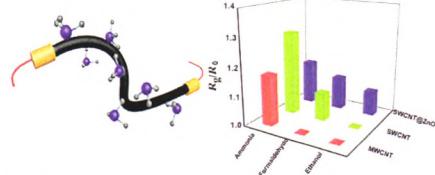
<sup>1</sup> Jilin University, China

<sup>2</sup> Institute of Semiconductors, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

<sup>3</sup> Chinese PLA General Hospital, China

<sup>4</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

511–519



A smart multi-functional face mask was fabricated with three types of wearable fiber gas sensors that had the ability to selectively distinguish gases at room temperature.

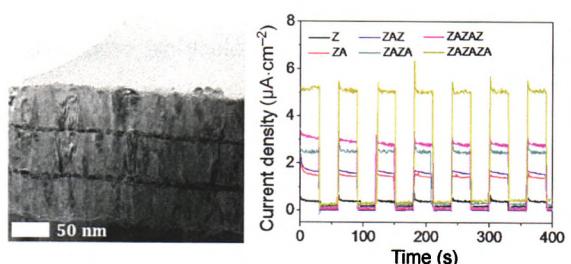
## Improved plasmon-assisted photoelectric conversion efficiency across entire ultraviolet-visible region based on antenna-on zinc oxide/silver three-dimensional nanostructured films

Lijuan Yan<sup>1</sup>, Yang Liu<sup>2</sup>, Yaning Yan<sup>1</sup>, Lanfang Wang<sup>1</sup>, Juan Han<sup>1</sup>, Yanan Wang<sup>1</sup>, Guowei Zhou<sup>1</sup>, Mark T. Swihart<sup>2</sup>, and Xiaohong Xu<sup>1,3,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Information Materials of Ministry of Education, China

<sup>2</sup> University at Buffalo (SUNY), USA

<sup>3</sup> Research Institute of Materials Science of Shanxi Normal University, China



We designed and fabricated ZnO/Ag nanostructured films to enhance the photoelectric conversion efficiency. The photocurrent increased 3.75 times for the antenna-on ZnO/Ag three-dimensional nanostructured film (ZAZAZA) relative to a pure ZnO film (Z) under ultraviolet-visible light illumination, indicating great potential for application in photovoltaic or photoelectrochemical devices.

520–529

## Flexible design of gradient multilayer nanofilms coated on carbon nanofibers by atomic layer deposition for enhanced microwave absorption performance

Shichao Zhao<sup>1,2</sup>, Lili Yan<sup>1,2</sup>, Xiaodong Tian<sup>1,2</sup>, Yequn Liu<sup>1</sup>, Chaoqiu Chen<sup>1</sup>, Yunqin Li<sup>1,2</sup>, Jiankang Zhang<sup>1,2</sup>, Yan Song<sup>1</sup>, and Yong Qin<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institute of Coal Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

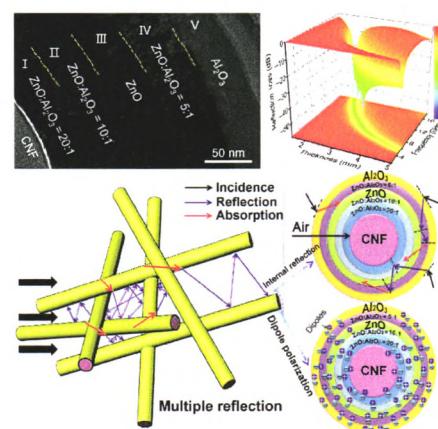
<sup>2</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

530–541

## Nafion-assisted exfoliation of MoS<sub>2</sub> in water phase and the application in quick-response NIR light controllable multi-shape memory membrane

Wei Jia, Beibei Tang\*, and Peiyi Wu\*

Fudan University, China



Specifically designed gradient multilayer nanofilms with gradually increasing conductivity coated on electrospun carbon nanofibers by atomic layer deposition act as an intermediate layer leading to a remarkably enhanced impedance matching between air and the carbon nanofibers, and an excellent microwave absorption performance.

542–553

## Highly-anisotropic optical and electrical properties in layered SnSe

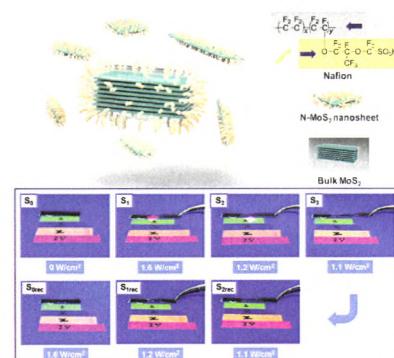
Shengxue Yang<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Yuan Liu<sup>1</sup>, Minghui Wu<sup>3</sup>, Li-Dong Zhao<sup>2</sup>, Zhaoyang Lin<sup>1</sup>, Hung-chieh Cheng<sup>1</sup>, Yiliu Wang<sup>1</sup>, Chengbao Jiang<sup>2</sup>, Su-Huai Wei<sup>4</sup>, Li Huang<sup>3</sup>, Yu Huang<sup>1</sup>, and Xiangfeng Duan<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of California, Los Angeles, USA

<sup>2</sup> Beihang University, China

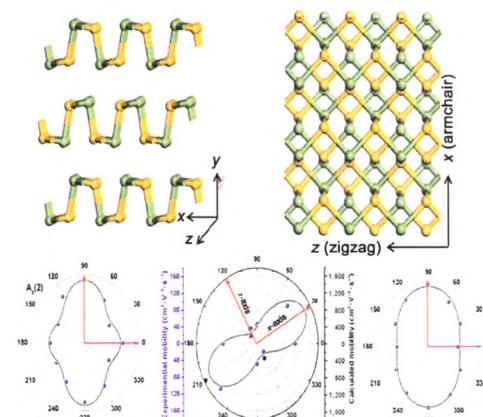
<sup>3</sup> South University of Science and Technology of China, China

<sup>4</sup> Beijing Computational Science Research Center, China



Nafion is adopted as a dispersant for assisting the water-phase exfoliation of MoS<sub>2</sub>. Composite membranes of Nafion-modified MoS<sub>2</sub>/Nafion show excellent near-infrared light-controllable multi-shape memory performance with convenient operation and quick response.

554–564

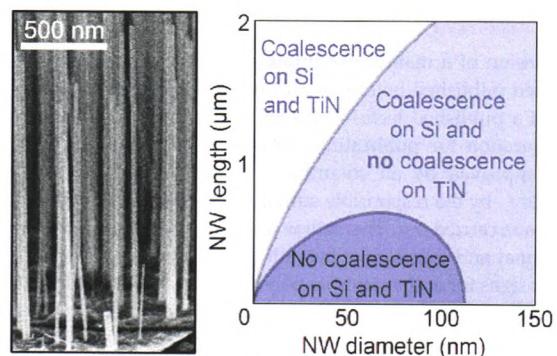


We report a systematic study of the in-plane anisotropic properties of layered SnSe, using angle-resolved Raman scattering, optical absorption, and electrical transport methods.

### Self-assembled formation of long, thin, and uncoalesced GaN nanowires on crystalline TiN films

David van Treeck\*, Gabriele Calabrese, Jelle J. W. Goertz, Vladimir M. Kaganer, Oliver Brandt, Sergio Fernández-Garrido, and Lutz Geelhaar

Leibniz-Institut im Forschungsverbund Berlin e.V., Germany



We investigate in detail the self-assembled nucleation and growth of GaN nanowires on TiN. It is demonstrated that the TiN substrate allows the growth of long, thin and uncoalesced GaN nanowires which are suitable for the growth of core-shell heterostructures.

565–576

### Site-specific determination of TTR-related functional peptides by using scanning tunneling microscopy

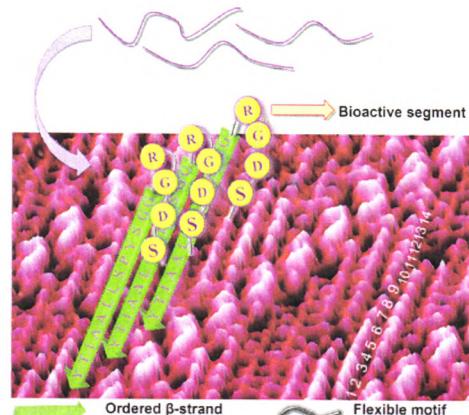
Lanlan Yu<sup>1,3,4</sup>, Yongfang Zheng<sup>1,3,4</sup>, Jing Xu<sup>1,4</sup>, Fuyang Qu<sup>1,4</sup>, Yuchen Lin<sup>1,4</sup>, Yimin Zou<sup>1,4</sup>, Yanlian Yang<sup>1,\*</sup>, Sally L. Gras<sup>2,\*</sup>, and Chen Wang<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> National Center for Nanoscience and Technology, China

<sup>2</sup> The University of Melbourne, Australia

<sup>3</sup> Tsinghua University, China

<sup>4</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China



TTR-related functional peptides were designed with two different functional motifs. Here, we used scanning tunneling microscopy to achieve site-specific analyses of their assembly structures for rational design and optimization.

577–585

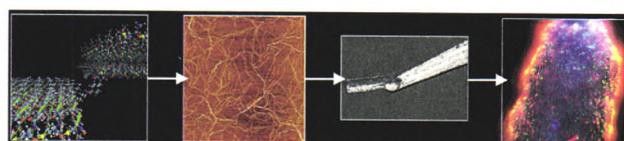
### Cross-linked self-assembling peptide scaffolds

Raffaele Pugliese<sup>1</sup>, Amanda Marchini<sup>1,2</sup>, Gloria Anna Ada Saracino<sup>2</sup>, Ronald N. Zuckermann<sup>3</sup>, and Fabrizio Gelain<sup>1,2,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Opera di San Pio da Pietrelcina, Italy

<sup>2</sup> A. O. Ospedale Niguarda Cà Granda, Italy

<sup>3</sup> Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA



Self-assembling peptides have an unquestionable impact on regenerative medicine applications, because they feature biomimetic nano-architectures that mimic the complexity of natural peptide-based extracellular matrices of living tissues. Although self-assembling peptides have attracted increasing interest in the scientific community as tailor-made, synthetic, and biocompatible biomaterials, their applications have been hampered so far by their poor mechanical properties, yielding soft and fragile scaffolds unsuitable for many medical applications. Here, by using a tailored cross-linking reaction, it was possible to covalently link peptide molecules after self-assembly, giving rise to dramatically stiffer, flexible, and tailor-made biomimetic scaffolds, thus expanding their potential for many applications in regenerative medicine and beyond.

586–602

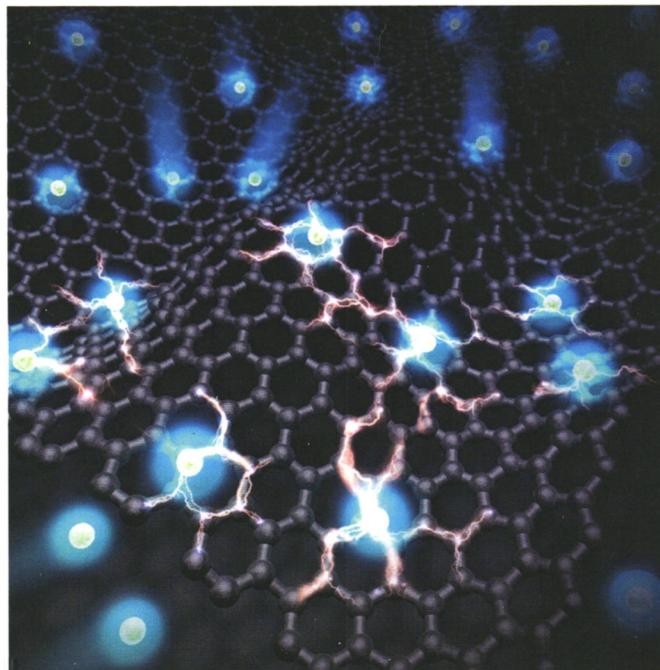
ISSN 1998-0124

CN 11-5974/O4

Nano Research

Volume 11 · Number 1 · January 2018

(Monthly, started in 2008)



纳米研究（英文版）（月刊，2008年创刊）第11卷 第1期 2018年1月出版

Editors-in-Chief Hongjie Dai, Yadong Li

主管单位 中华人民共和国教育部

Sponsored by Tsinghua University & Chinese Chemical Society

主办单位 清华大学

Edited by Nano Research Editorial Office

中国化学会

Published by Tsinghua University Press

主 编 戴宏杰 李亚栋

Address Xueyan Building,

编 辑 《纳米研究》编辑部

Tsinghua University,

出版发行 清华大学出版社有限公司

Beijing 100084, China

印刷单位 北京中献拓方科技发展有限公司

Website [www.theNanoResearch.com](http://www.theNanoResearch.com) & [www.springer.com/journal/12274](http://www.springer.com/journal/12274)

Online Manuscript Submission, Review and Tracking System [www.editorialmanager.com/nare](http://www.editorialmanager.com/nare)

ISSN 1998-0124

A standard linear barcode is positioned vertically on the right side of the page. To its left is the journal's ISSN, "1998-0124". To the right of the barcode is the identifier "01 &gt;". Below the barcode is the number "9 771998 012184", which is likely a specific issue or volume identifier.