Interfacial Synthesis of Two-Dimensional Polymers

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At present, one of the key challenges faced by the scientific community is to go beyond graphene, a prototypical two-dimensional polymer (2DP, a laterally infinite, one atomor monomer-unit thin, free-standing network with long-range order along two orthogonal directions), to synthesize its analogues with structural control at the atomicmolecular-level under mild conditions. Here present the rational synthesis monolayer and multilayer 2DPs with rigid and symmetric monomers through reversible coordination and dvnamic covalent reactions at an air-water interface and liquid-liquid interface. [1-5] Such 2DPs have single crystalline domains with a lateral size in the range of hundreds nm² to µm². They have a thickness of \square 0.5 - 10 nm and a lateral size in the range of cm² to 4-inch wafer, and can be freely suspended over 20 µm × 20 µm sized holes. They are rigid and flexible, and can be conformed and bonded robustly to nearly any surface, facilitating their integration into devices. Proof-of-concept applications of such 2DPs suggest they are promising materials for energy-related technologies and field-effect transistors.

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Figures

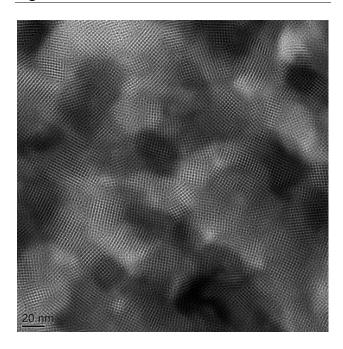


Figure 1: High-resolution TEM image of 2D polyimine synthesized at an air-water interface.