

Exploring the Potential of 2D-based Nano/Microswimmers for Biomedical and Environmental Applications

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Abstract

Nano/microswimmers with autonomous motion are the frontier of nanotechnology and nanomaterial research. These self-propelled nano/microswimmers convert chemical energy obtained from their surroundings to propulsion. Particularly, the recent progress in targeted drug delivery and efficient water purification systems is very promising. Graphene and the recently discovered layered materials -beyond graphene- have superior properties and have made a great impact on the new generation of energy, biomedical and environmental applications. Integration of single/few layers materials with extremely high surface area into nano/microswimmers has been created a dynamic platform which could significantly enhance motor's functions in terms of adsorption capacity and mobility. We have employed 2D-based microswimmers to demonstrate (i) organics / heavy metals / ions collection and DOX loading, (ii) a targeted transport system, (iii) the on-demand release mechanism, and (iv) the recovery of the robots for further usage.^[1-13]

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