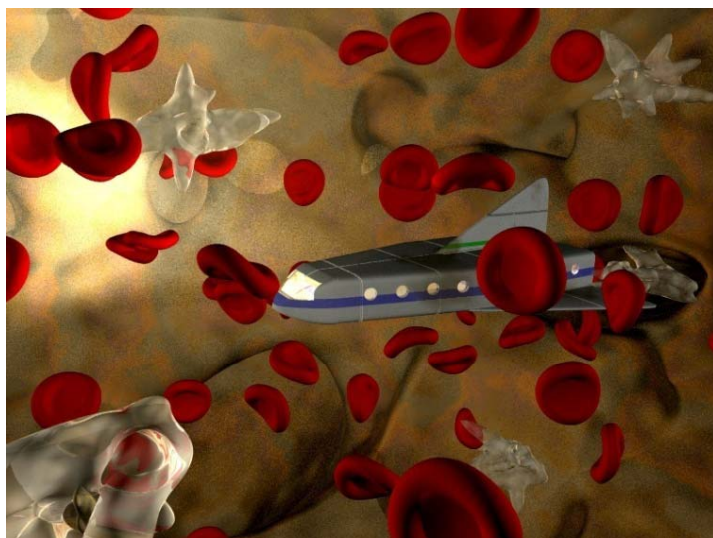


Designing Intelligent Nano/Microbots: *Fantastic Voyage*

AYUSMAN SEN

Department of Chemistry
Pennsylvania State University

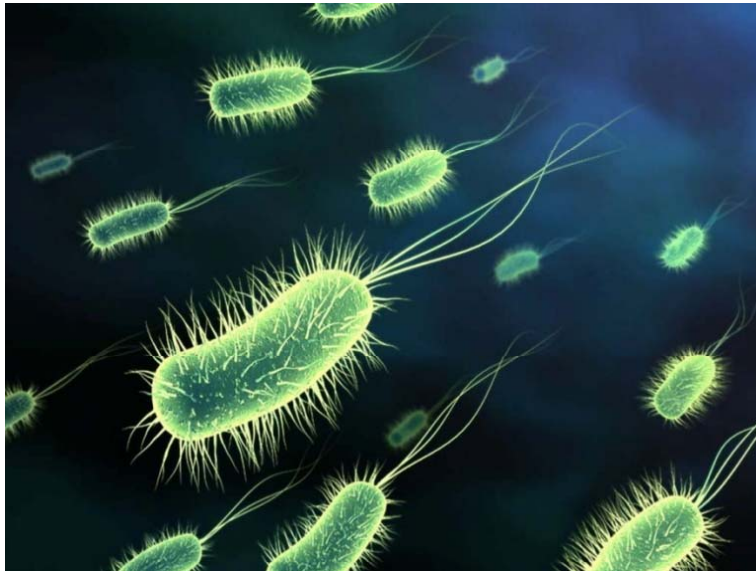
E-mail: asen@psu.edu



Nano Today, 2013
Angew. Chem., 2012
Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys., 2010
Angew. Chem., 2006
Scientific American, May, 2009

Grand Challenge

Master Energy & Information at the Nano/Micro Scale



Design intelligent systems.

Create technologies that rival those of living organisms.

Use free energy to fabricate organized systems driven **far from equilibrium**.

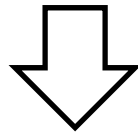
Grand Challenge:

Master Energy & Information at the Nano/Micro Scale

- Design intelligent systems
- Use free energy to fabricate organized systems driven far from equilibrium

Code

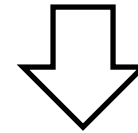
Information



Gradient: Chemical, Optical, ...

Decode

Ability to process information



Self-powered object

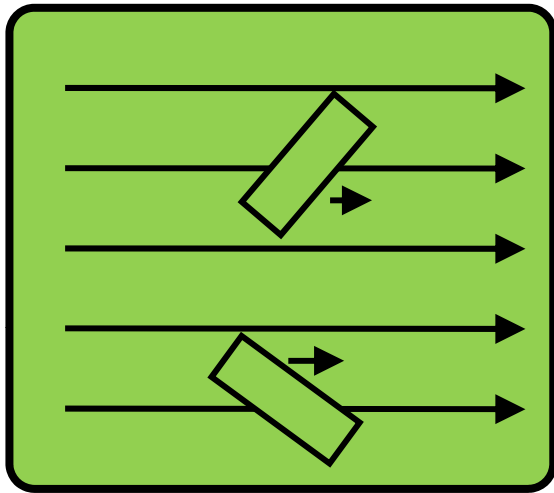
Information + Information Processing

Collective/Emergent behavior

- ☐ Re-configurable Spatial and/or Temporal Assemblies
- ☐ Analyte-Triggered Motion and Cargo Delivery

Sources of Free Energy

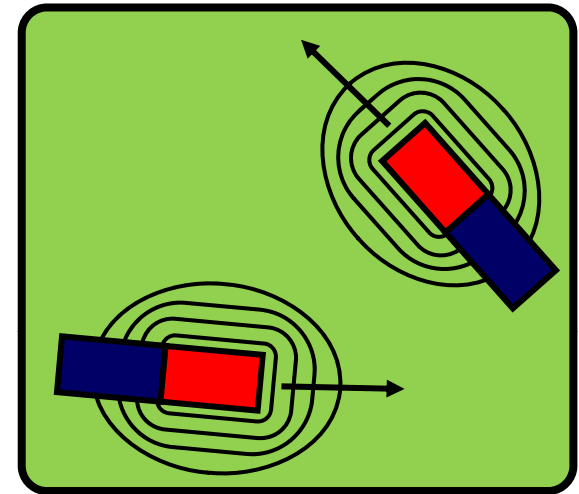
External Vector Field



- Many types of fields:
(*magnetic, electric, thermal, ..*)
- Energy applied from external source
- Ensemble behavior of all particles
- Motion is defined by the field, not the particle: *not a motor*

Anderson, *Ann. Rev. Fluid. Mech.*, 1989

Self-Generated Field



- Catalytically generated fields:
(*chemical, thermal, electric, ..*)
- Energy harvested locally
- Motors move independently
Motors store or react to information at the *local level*
- **Catalysis** and *asymmetry*

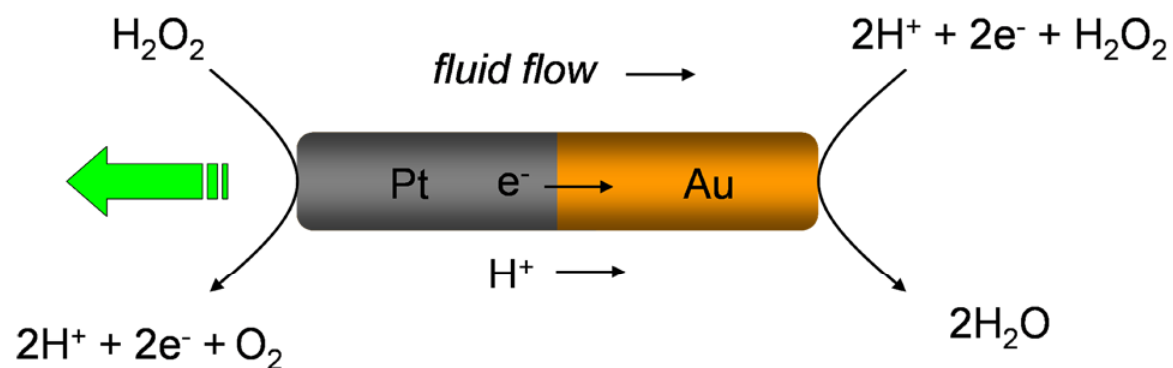
Mallouk, Sen, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2005

Design Elements in Intelligent Nano/Microbots

- ❑ Autonomous movement through energy harvesting
- ❑ Control of directionality by chemical or light gradients
- ❑ Inter-bot communication via chemical signals
- ❑ At low Reynolds number regime, asymmetric gradients along surfaces are optimal for powering objects



Electrokinetic Propulsion



$$i_{\text{e}^-} = i_{\text{H}^+}$$

$$E = \frac{J_{\text{H}^+}}{\sigma}$$

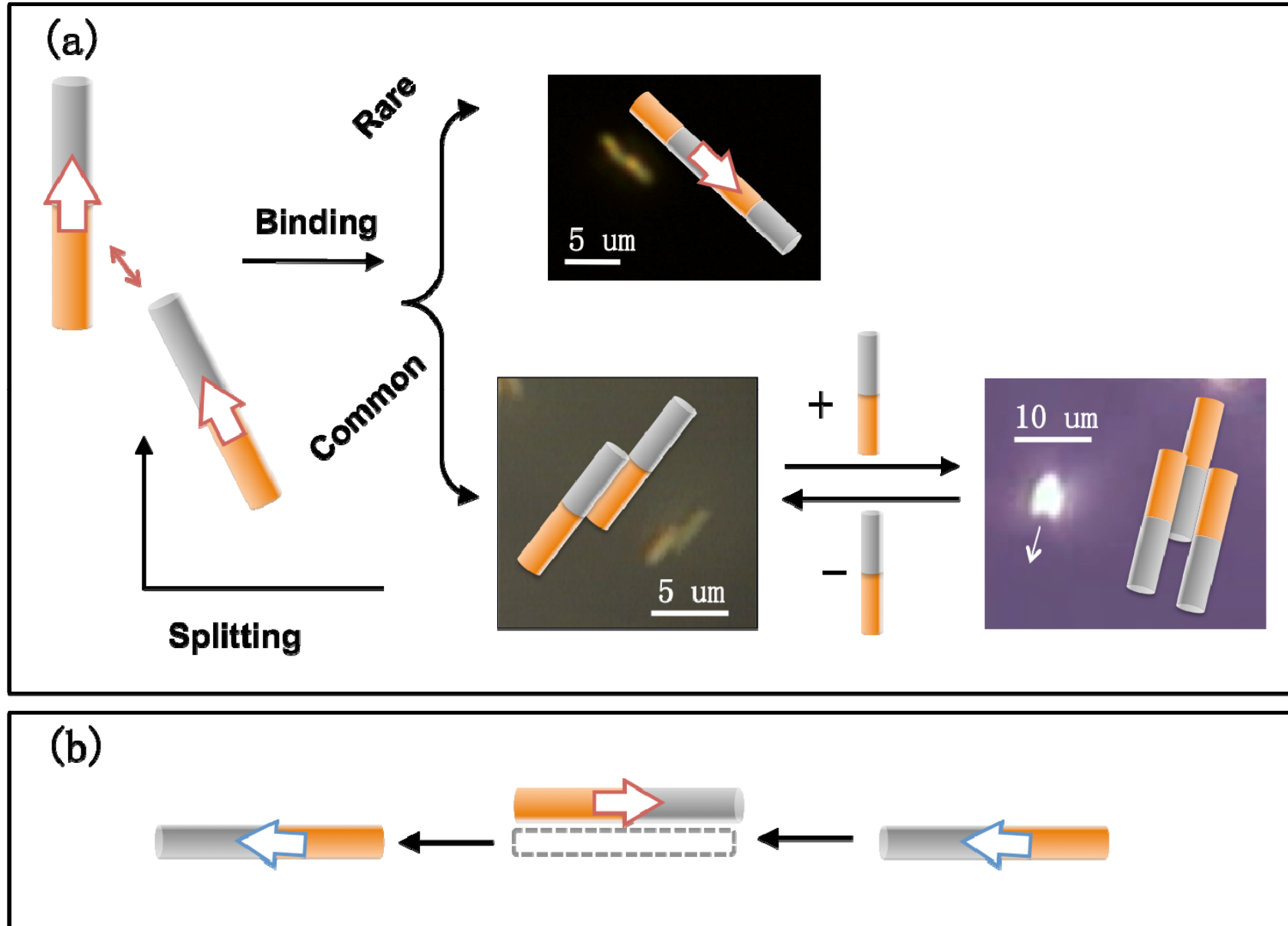
$$v = \frac{\zeta \epsilon E}{\mu} f$$

J = current density
 σ = conductivity
 E = electric field



Mallouk, Sen, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2004, 2006

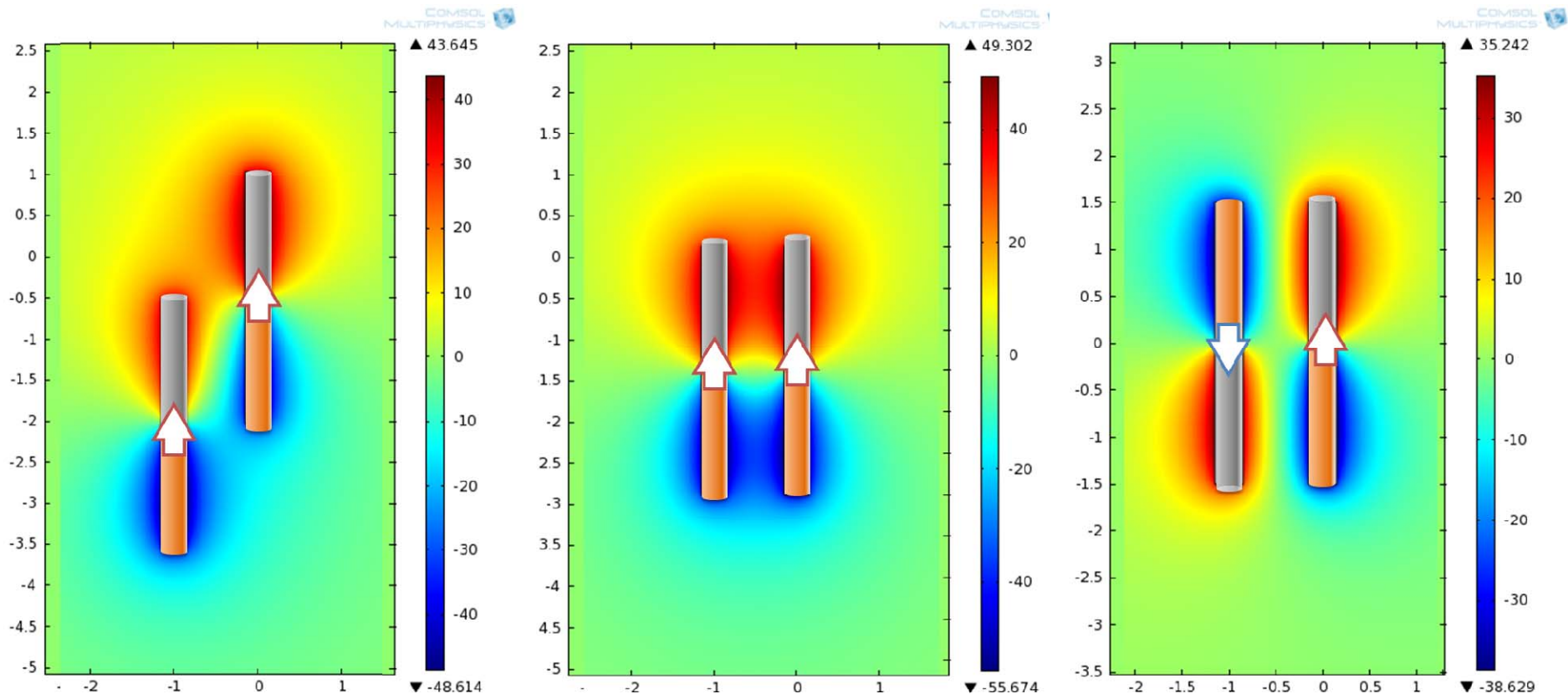
Dynamic Interactions Between Catalytic Nanomotors



Dynamic Interactions Between Catalytic Nanomotors



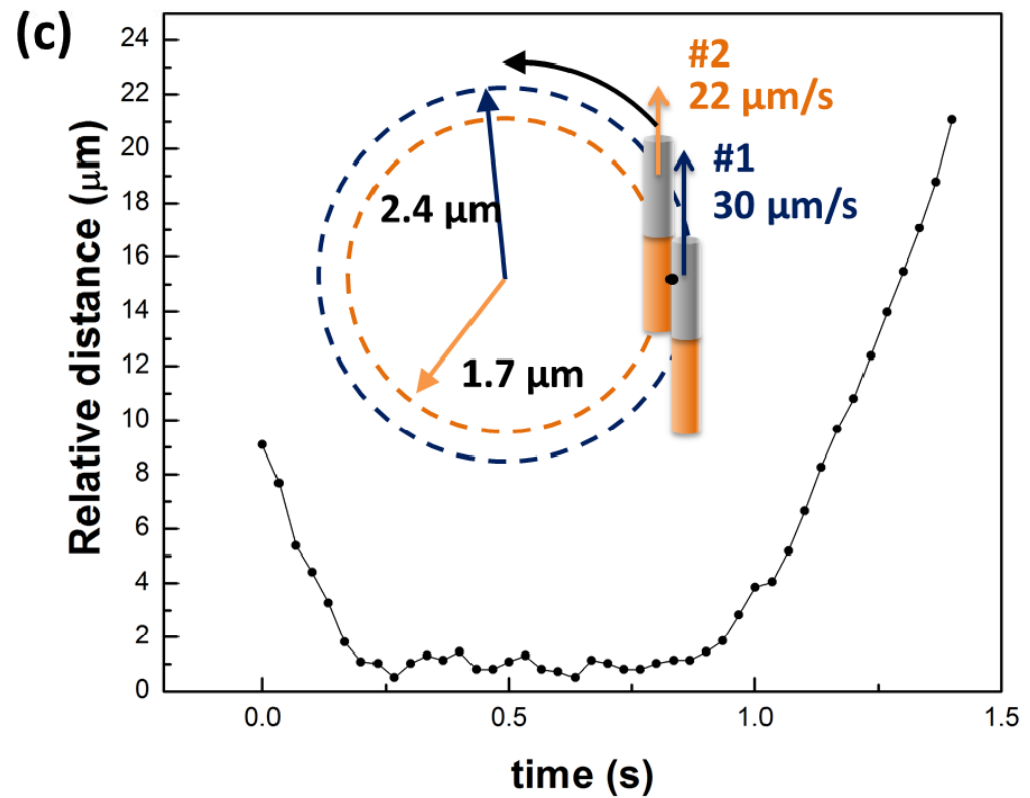
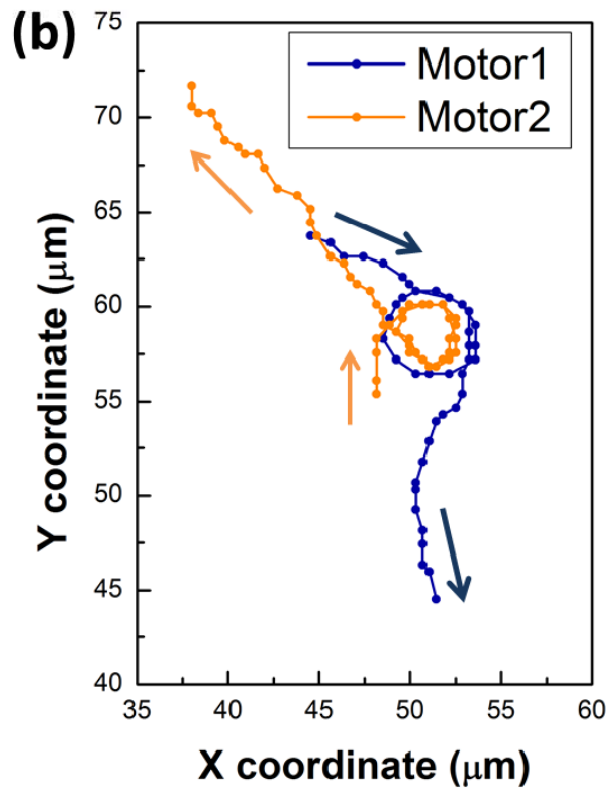
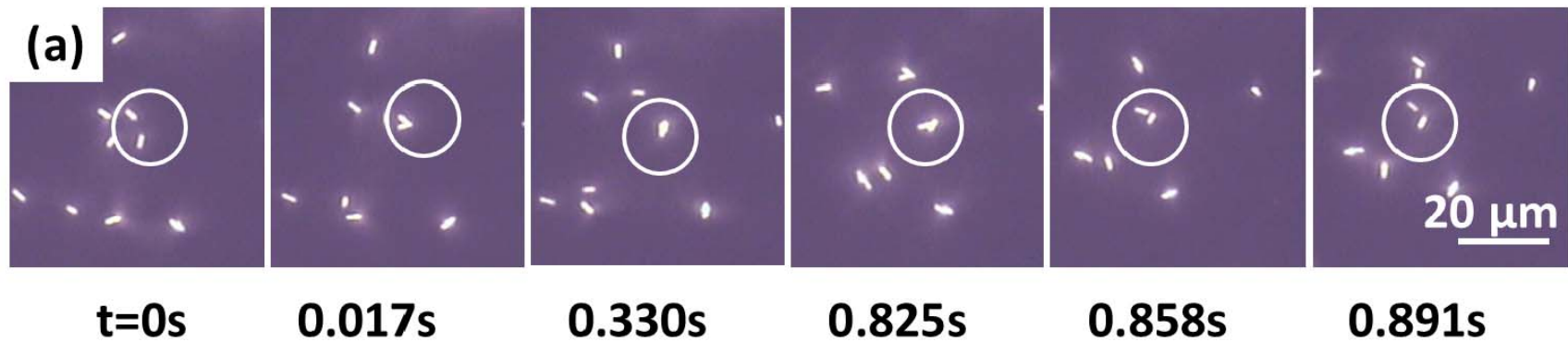
Origin of the Staggered Shape of Doublets



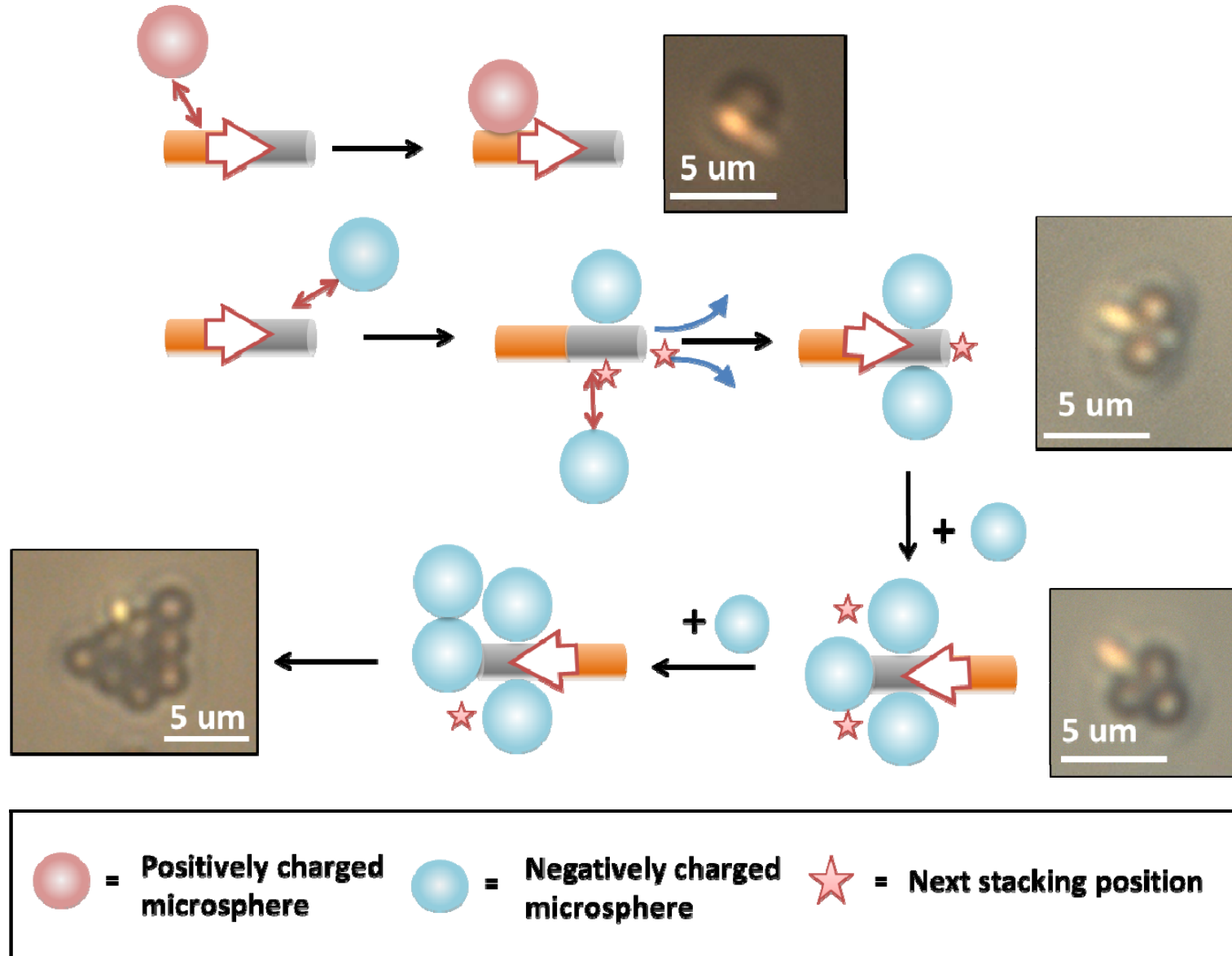
Space Charge Density from Simulation
(Moran & Posner, *J. Fluid Mech.* **2011**, 680, 31)

Mallouk, Sen, *PNAS*, 2013

Tracking Analysis



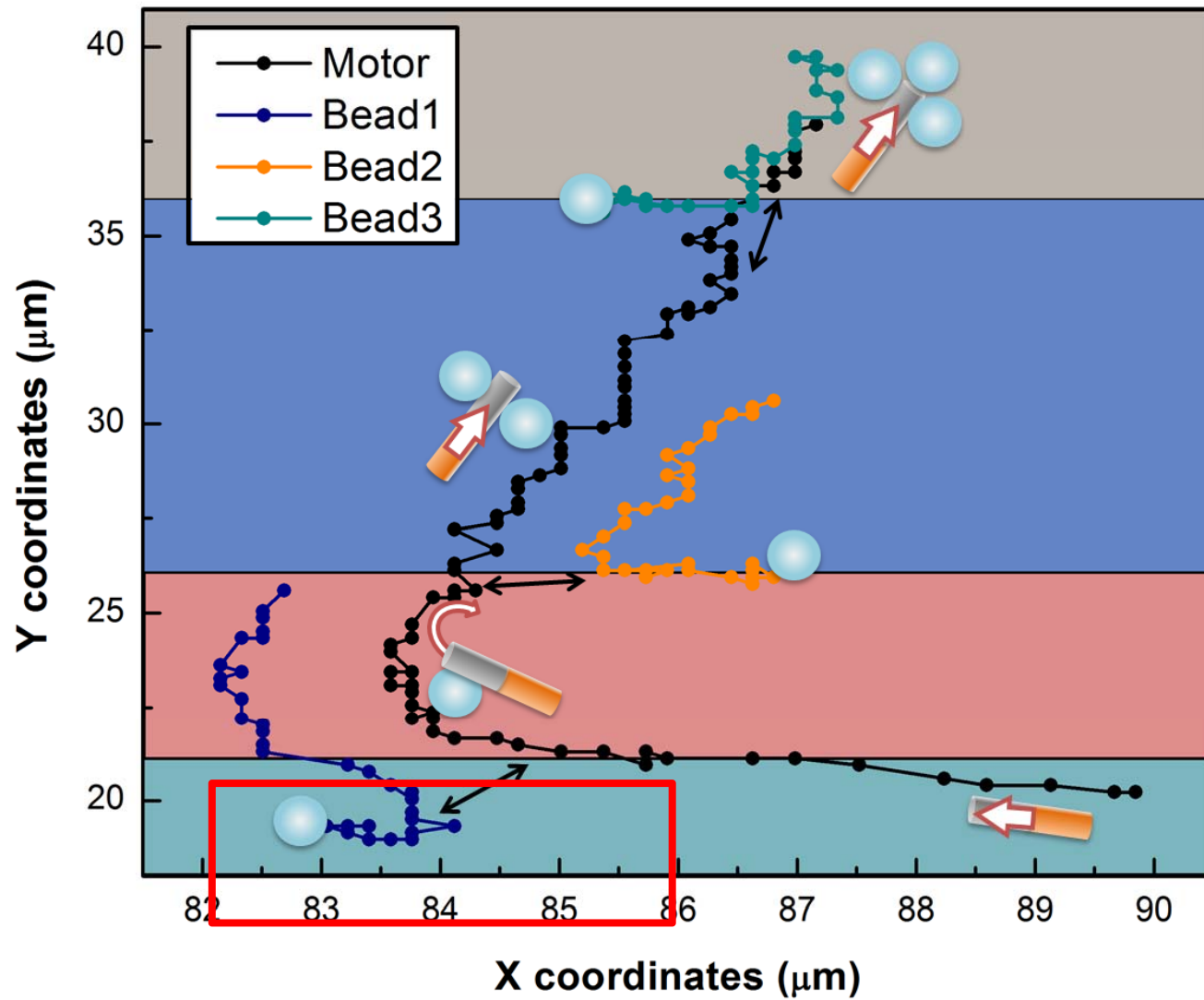
Dynamic Assembly of Charged Tracer Particles



Dynamic Assembly of Charged Tracer Particles

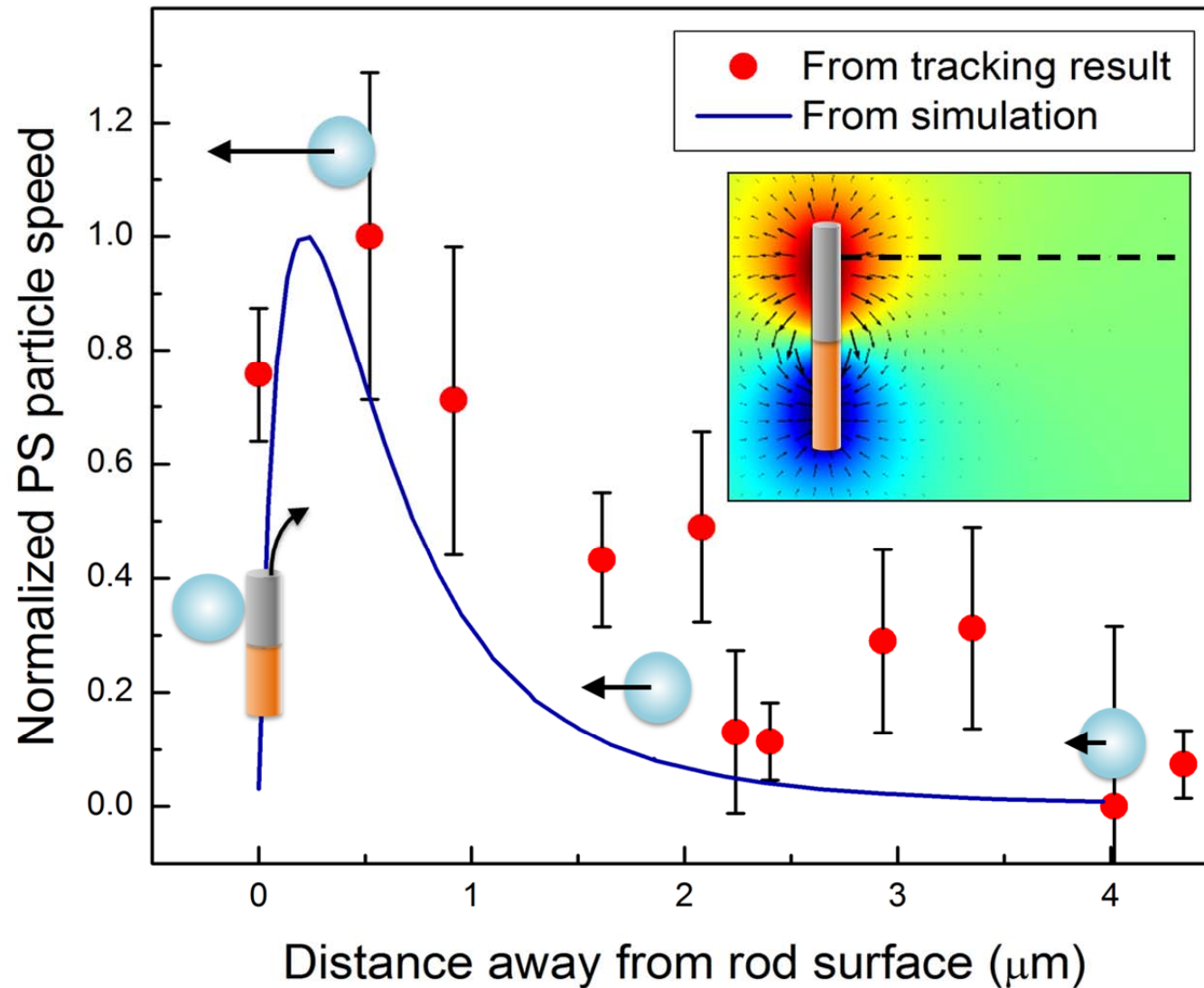


Tracking Analysis



Mallouk, Sen, *PNAS*, 2013

Electrophoretic Migration of Particles



Mallouk, Sen, *PNAS*, 2013

From Motors to Micropumps

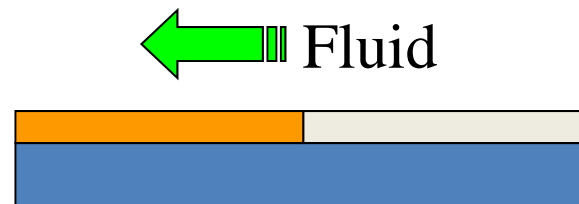
Motor



Suspended motor moves itself

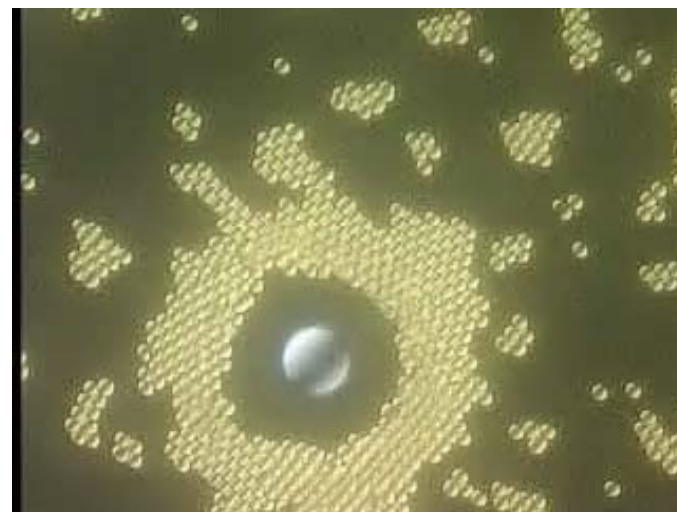
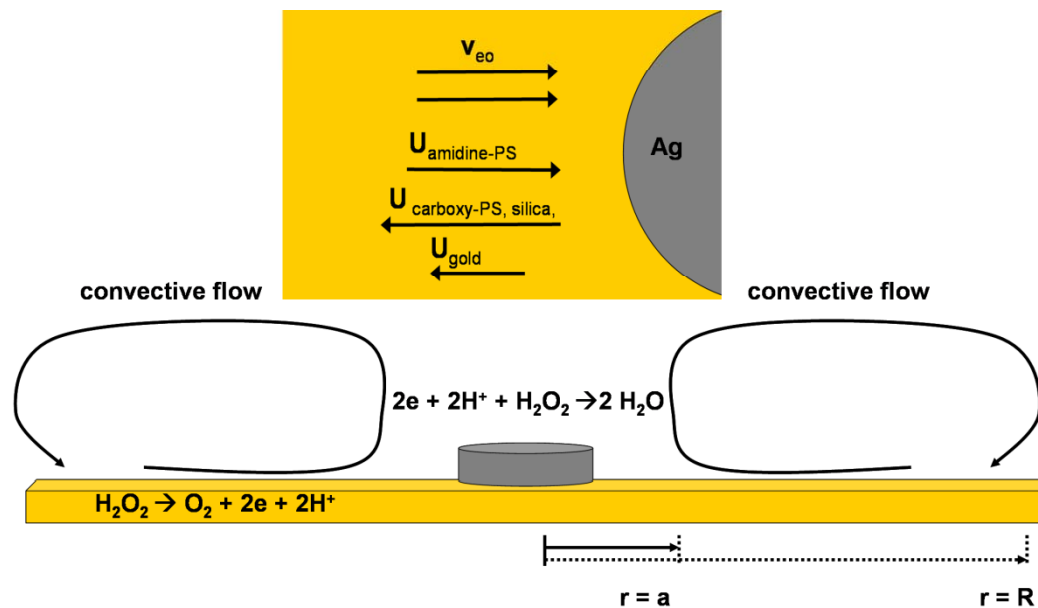
Micropump

- ☐ Immobilized motor moves surrounding fluid
- ☐ Channel-free directed fluid flow



J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2005, 2006

Catalytically Induced Fluidic Pumping



J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2005, 2006; *J. Phys. Chem. B.* 2006

Colloid Behavior as a Function of the Surface Charge



Real-time convective-motion of amidine terminated polystyrene ($2\ \mu\text{m}$) spheres on Ag patterned gold surface at 500x



Real-time pattern formation of $1\ \mu\text{m}$ polystyrene spheres on Ag patterned gold surface at 500x*

Why are polystyrene spheres of the same density behaving differently when only the colloid surface properties differ?

Quorum-Sensing Collective Behavior of Autonomous Nano/Microbots

- ☐ Bots secrete ions
- ☐ Electric field results from different diffusion rates of the cations vs. anions
- ☐ Bots move in response to the electric field
- ☐ Bots move cooperatively in response to neighbors' ion gradients

AgCl System: *Angew. Chem.*, 2009; *ACS Nano*, 2010
TiO₂ System: *Adv. Func. Mat.*, 2010

Diffusiophoretic Motion of Particles

Triggered by a gradient of electrolyte concentration

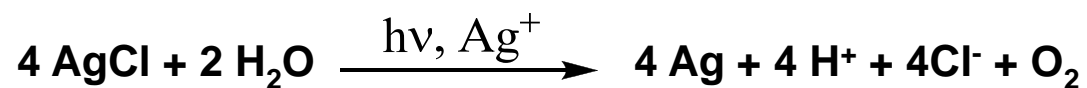
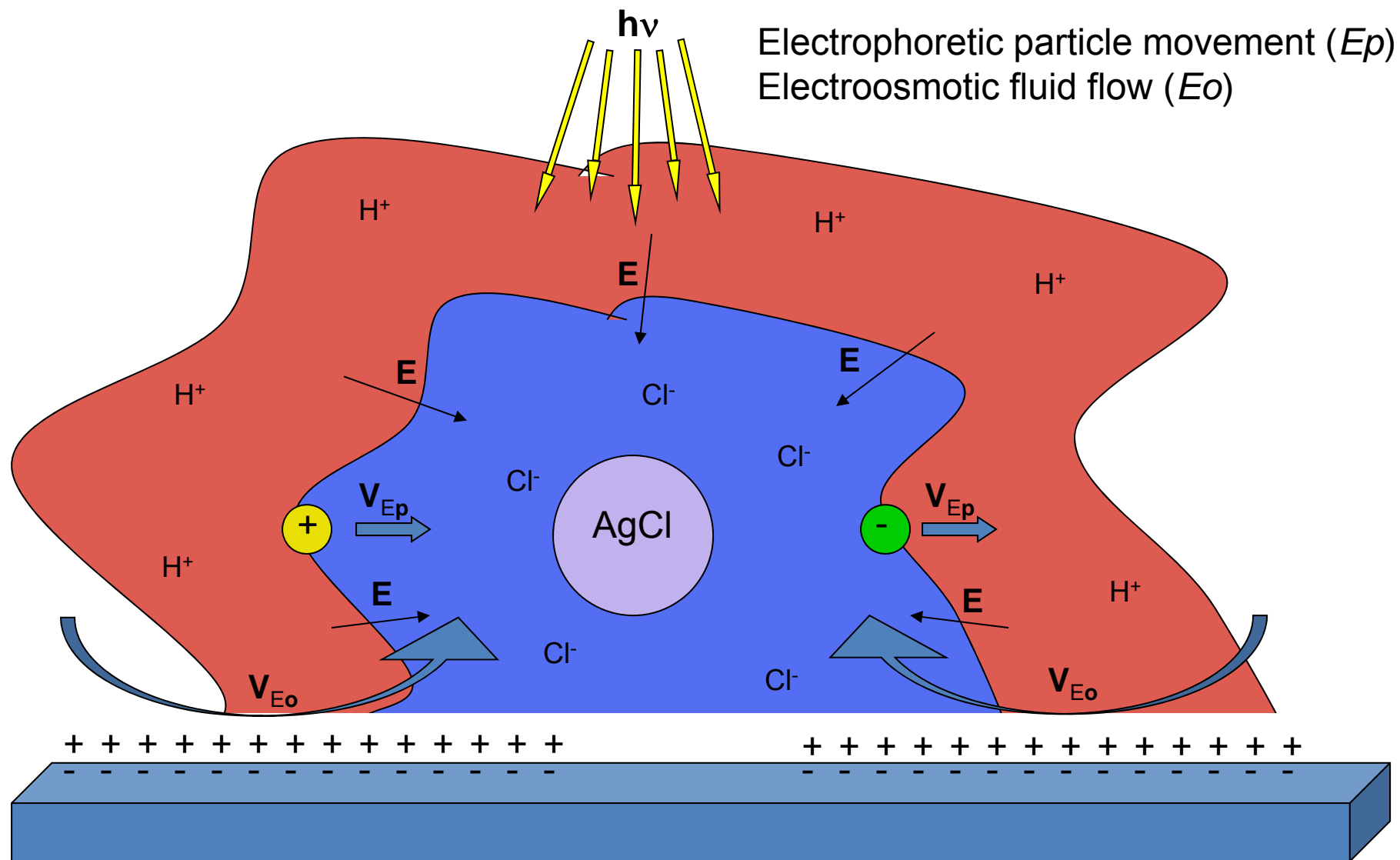
Electrophoresis tends to dominate over Chemophoresis

$$U = \underbrace{\left(\frac{d\ln(C)}{dx} \right) \left(\frac{D_C - D_A}{D_C + D_A} \right) \left(\frac{k_B T}{e} \right)}_{\text{Electric Field}} \frac{\varepsilon (\zeta_p - \zeta_w)}{\eta} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{d\ln(C)}{dx} \right) \left(\frac{2\varepsilon k_B^2 T^2}{\eta e^2} \right) \left\{ \ln \left[1 - \tanh^2 \left(\frac{e\zeta_w}{4k_B T} \right) \right] - \ln \left[1 - \tanh^2 \left(\frac{e\zeta_p}{4k_B T} \right) \right] \right\}}_{\text{Chemophoretic Term}}$$

Speed proportional to ion gradient and charge on the particle

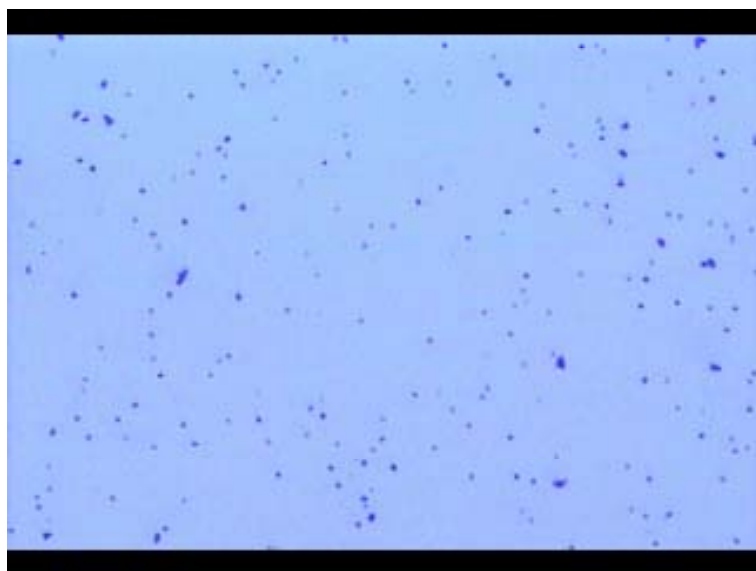
Under low Reynolds number conditions ($R \sim 10^{-5}$), the mass and radius of the particle are *not* important

Photochemistry of Silver Chloride

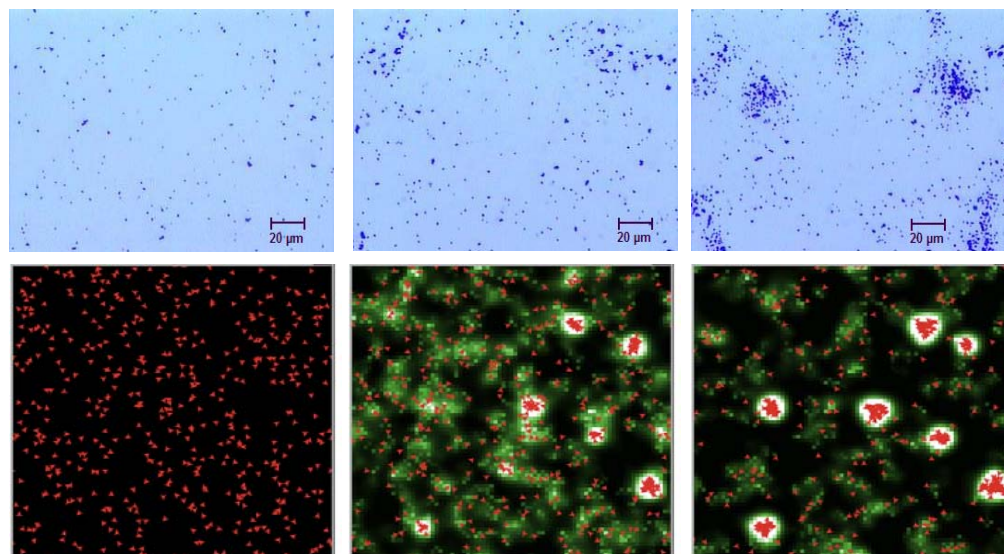


Emergent Collective Behavior

Through Communication via Chemical Signals



Silver chloride particles move when UV light is switched on. Large particle schools form within mins.



Comparison between schooling of silver chloride particles (**top**) and NetLogo model of slime mold behavior (**bottom**).

NetLogo: <http://ccl.northwestern.edu/netlogo/models/Slime>

***Angew. Chem.*, 2009; *Faraday Discuss.*, 2009**

Also, N_2H_4 -induced swarming of Au particles in 10% aq. H_2O_2 : Wang, 2011

Change in concentration at a given lattice site with time:

$$\underbrace{C_{x,y}(t + \Delta t)}_{\text{New Conc.}} = \underbrace{(1 - b)}_{\text{Bulk Loss}} \left\{ \underbrace{C_{x,y}(t)}_{\text{Original Conc.}} + \underbrace{an_{x,y}}_{\text{Chemical Production}} + \underbrace{D[C_{x+1,y}(t) + C_{x-1,y}(t) + C_{x,y+1}(t) + C_{x,y-1}(t) - 4C_{x,y}(t)]}_{\text{Diffusion}} \right\}$$

Chemical gradient across a lattice site in x and y directions

$$\psi_x = C_{x+1,y}(t) - C_{x-1,y}(t)$$

$$\psi_y = C_{x,y+1}(t) - C_{x,y-1}(t)$$

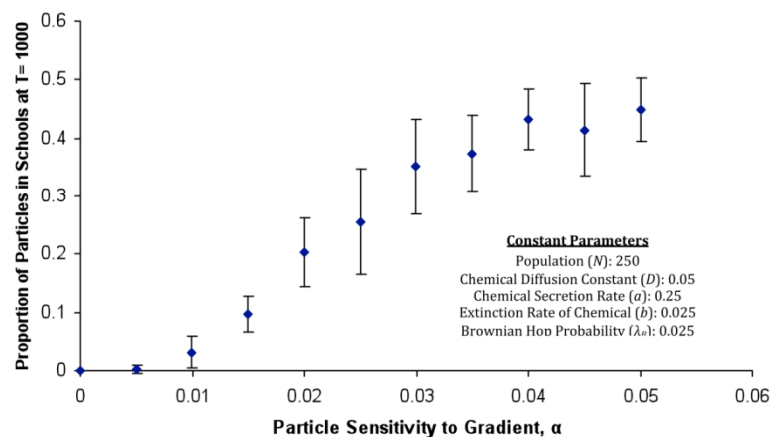
**Probability of hopping in a given direction,
in addition to user-defined Brownian hop probability, λ_B**

$$\lambda_x(t) = \alpha |\psi_x|$$

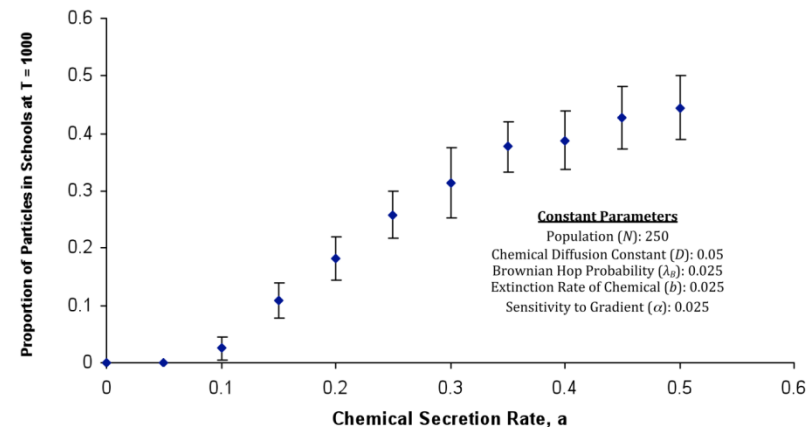
$$\lambda_y(t) = \alpha |\psi_y|$$

The modified NetLogo program was run for 1000 time steps with schooling defined as 4+ particles occupying a single lattice site

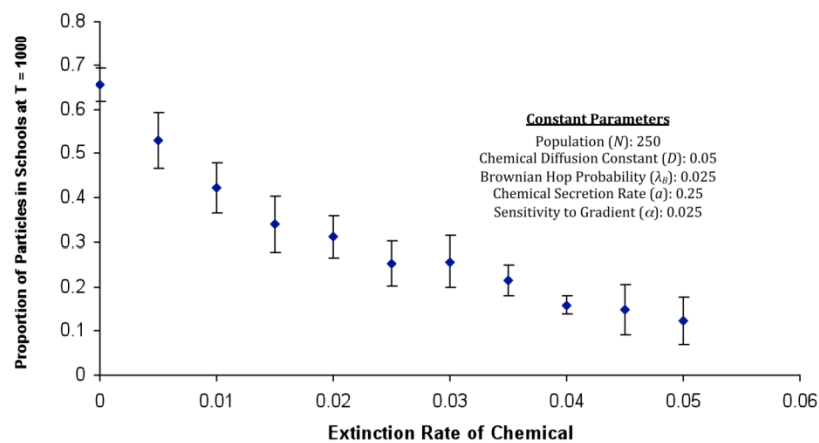
Schooling Propensity vs Particle Sensitivity to Gradient



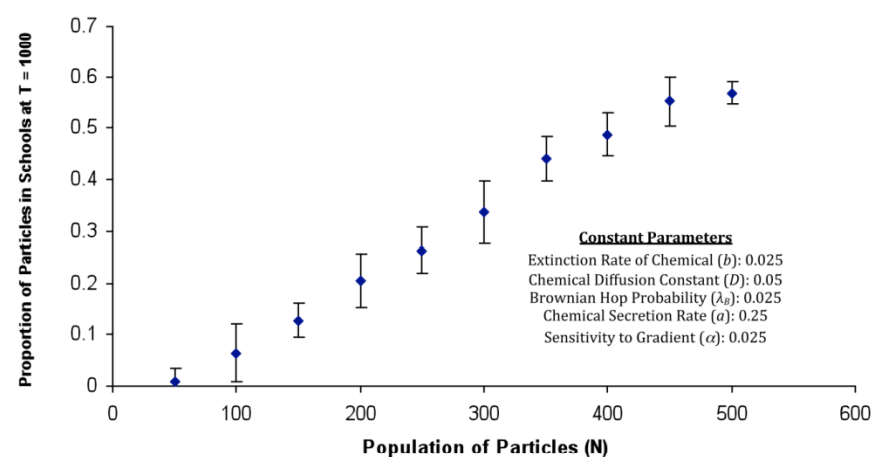
Schooling Propensity vs Chemical Secretion Rate



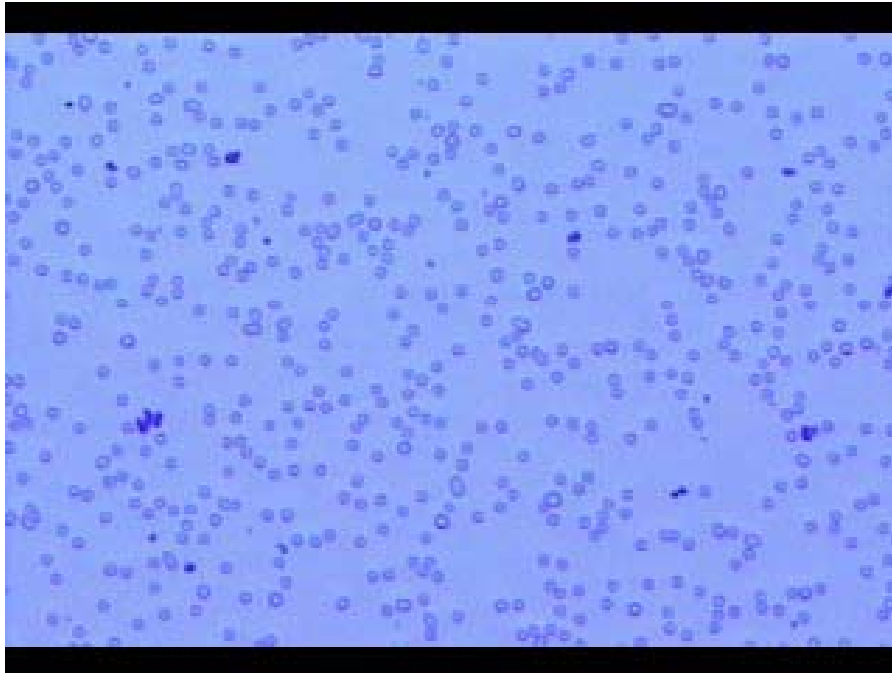
Schooling Propensity vs Extinction Rate of Chemical



Schooling Propensity vs Population



Predator-Prey Behavior



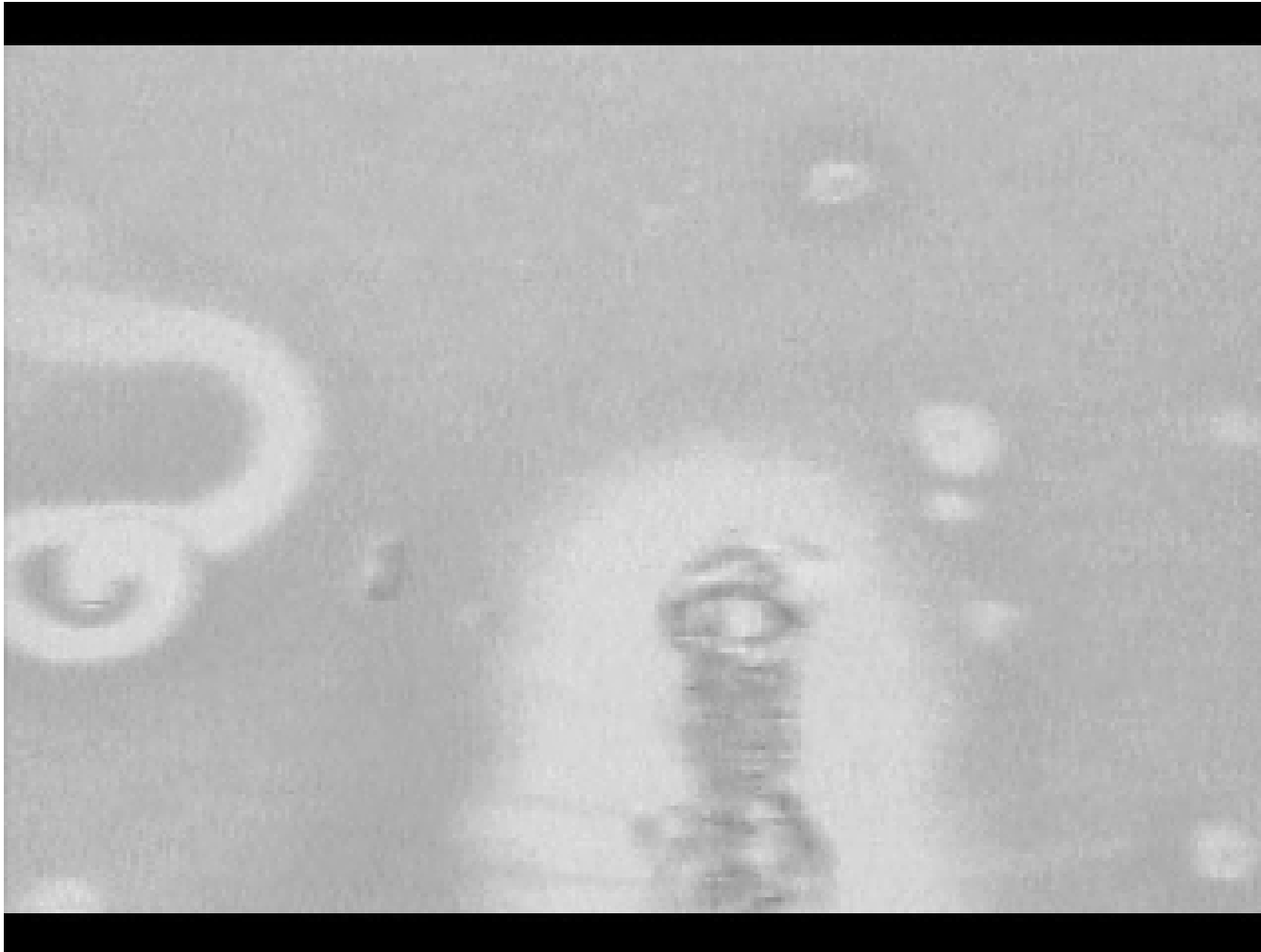
Silver chloride particles (dark objects)
with silica particles

***Angew. Chem.*, 2009**

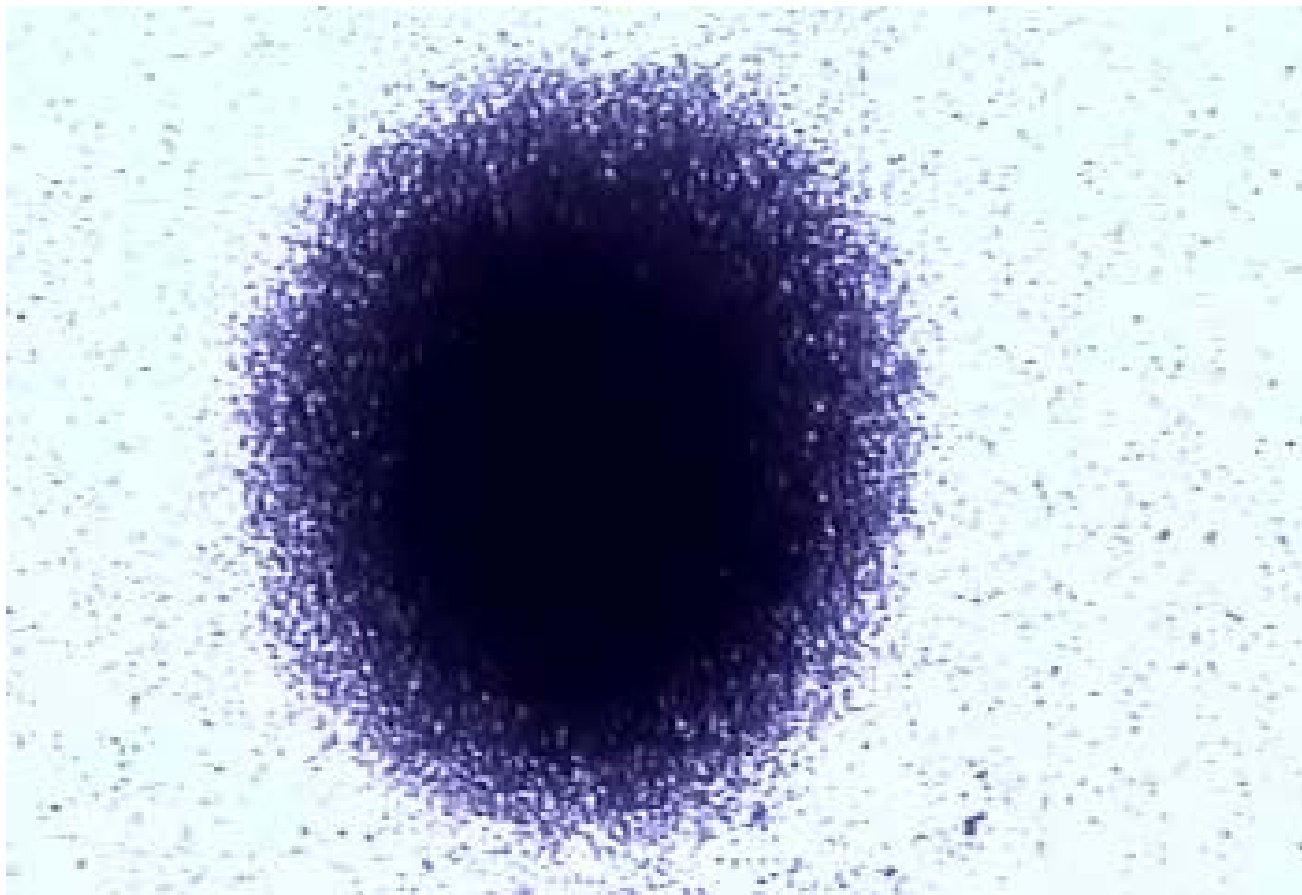
New Design Principles

- ❑ Two or more different particle types can move autonomously to organize themselves spatially
- ❑ Allows coordinated movement of dissimilar particles that are *not* attached to each other making it easier to transport and deliver cargo at designated area
- ❑ Particles with different functions can act collectively, simplifying design of intelligent assemblies

Shark Chasing a School of Fish



Reversible Spatio/Temporal Assemblies

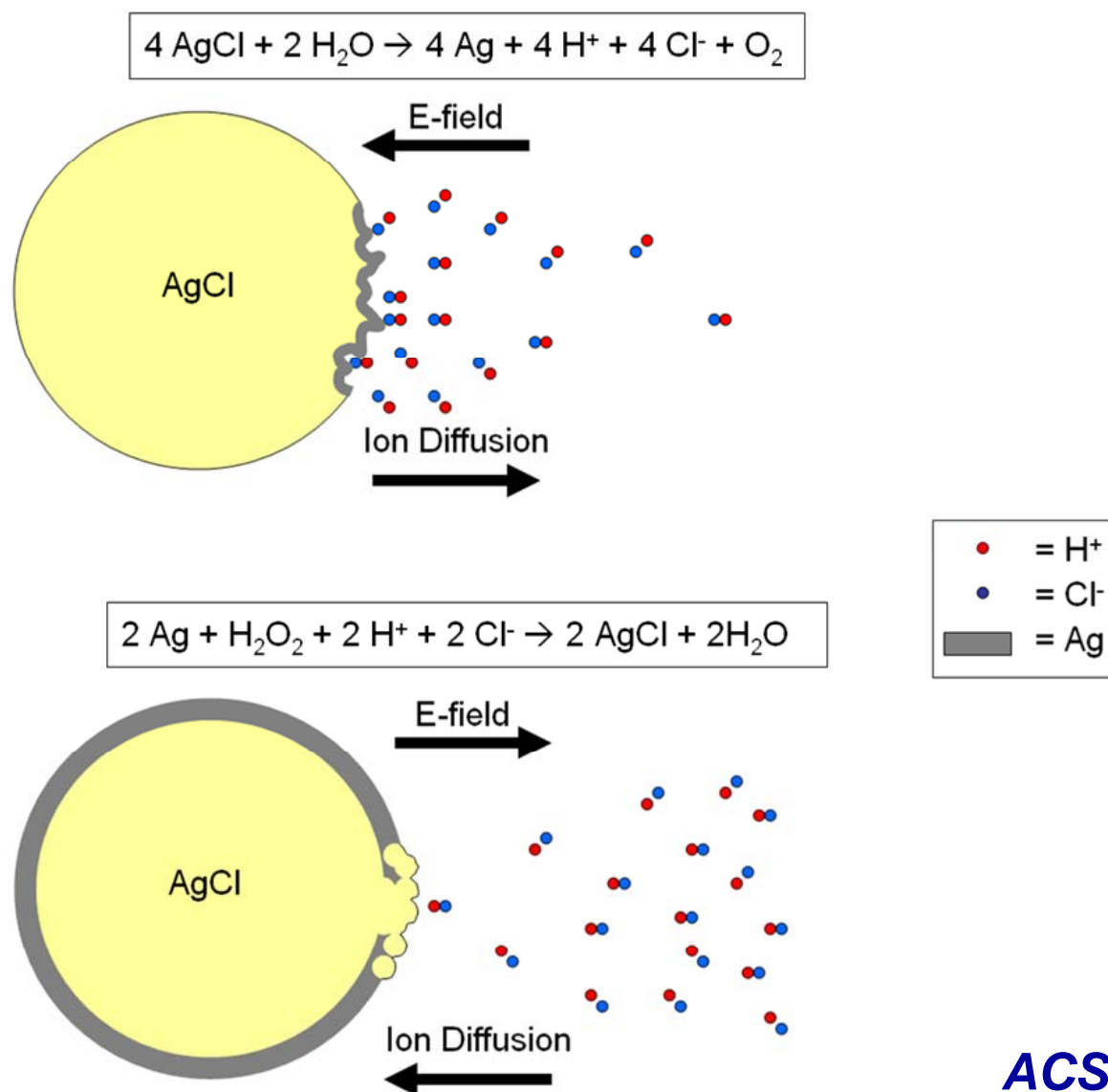


The UV light is alternately turned **ON** and **OFF**

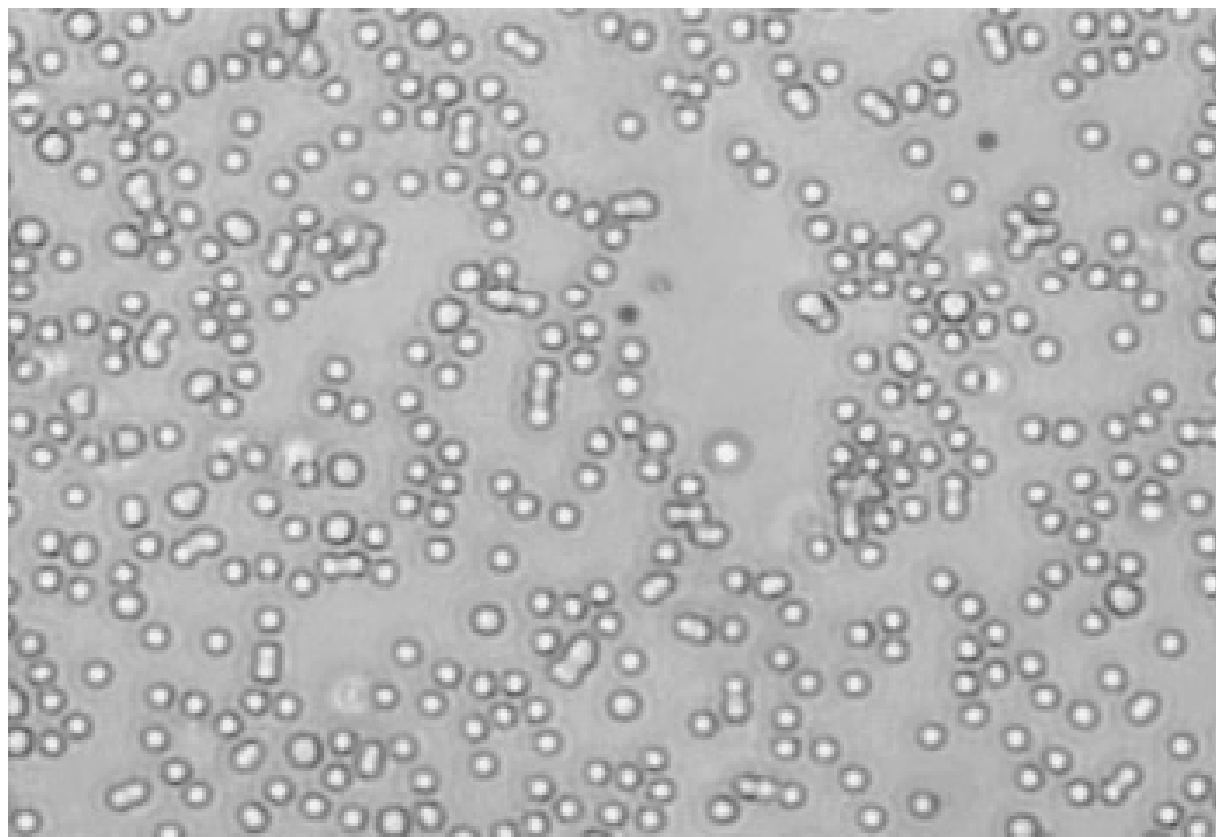
Real time video

Angew. Chem., 2009

Oscillatory Behavior and Emergent Synchronization of Particles Under Redox Conditions



ACS Nano, 2010



A solution containing AgCl particles (darker objects), silica tracer spheres (lighter objects), and 1% (v/V) H_2O_2 in water. The particles are illuminated with UV light over a microscope slide. The AgCl particles are seen to move through solution, and alternately bind and release the silica tracer particles. The video is 194 μm in width. Movie plays in real-time.

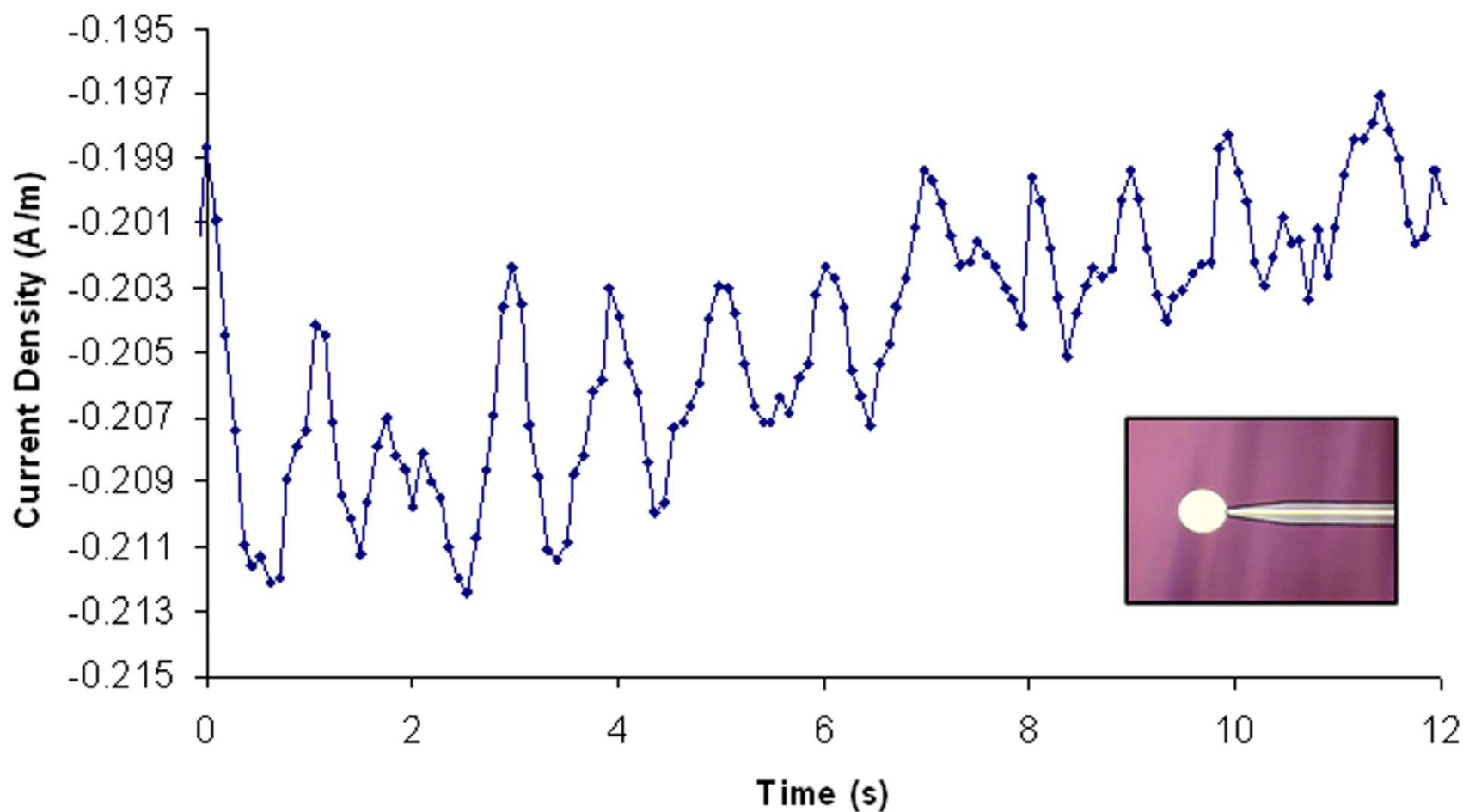
ACS Nano, 2010



Real-time video (30 fps)

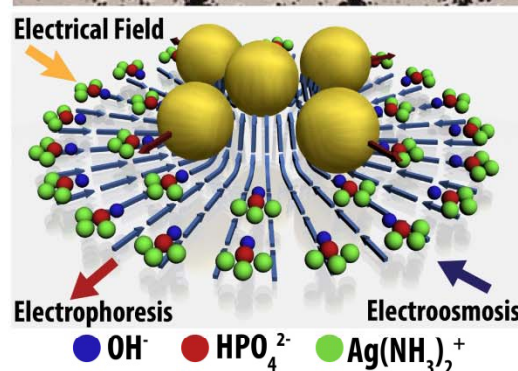
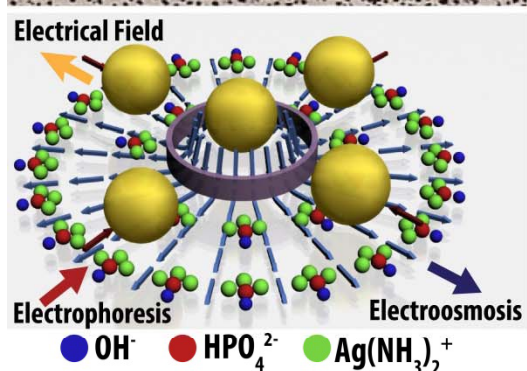
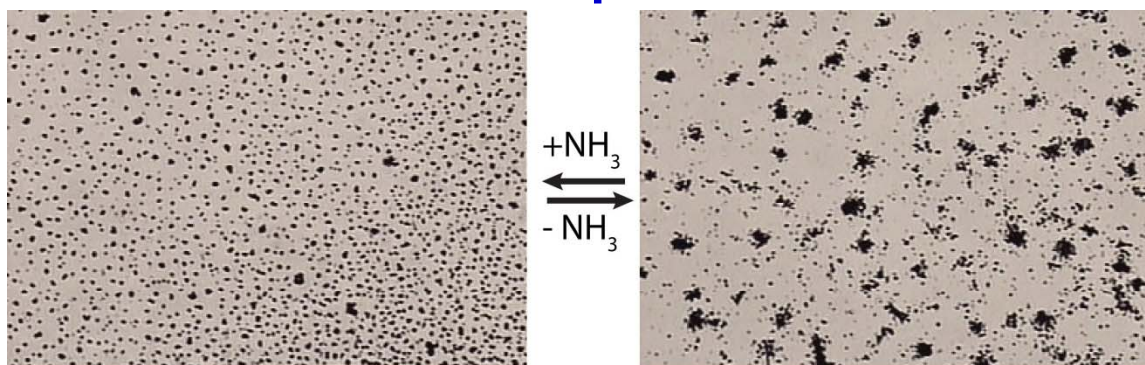
A UV-illuminated aqueous solution containing $2.3\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ silica tracer particles, 0.33 mM HCl , and 0.17% (v/V) H_2O_2 is imaged above an array of $9\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ diameter silver disks with $11\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ spacings.

As a traveling wave of tracer particle motion passes the array, the disks appear to flash on and off as their color alternates between reflective silver and darkened AgCl .



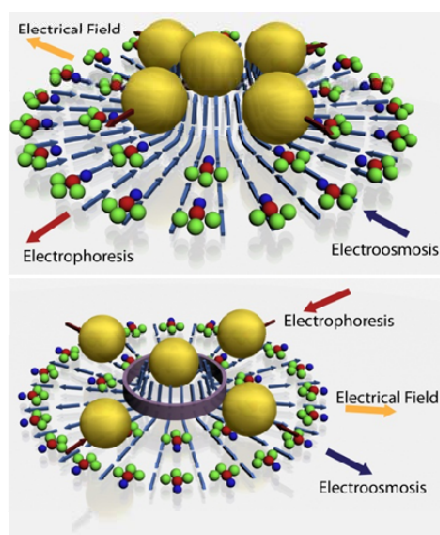
Current from a 90 μm silver disk patterned on a SiO_2 wafer in the presence of 0.17% (v/v) H_2O_2 , 0.17 mM HCl and silica tracer spheres, under UV illumination. After a few seconds of illumination, current oscillations are recorded which match the oscillations of tracer particles. Negative currents are oxidative with respect to the silver surface. **Inset**, the 90 μm diameter silver disk connected to an insulated silver wire that monitored the reaction current on the disk surface.

Transition between Collective Behaviors of Micromotors in Response to Different Stimuli



J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2013

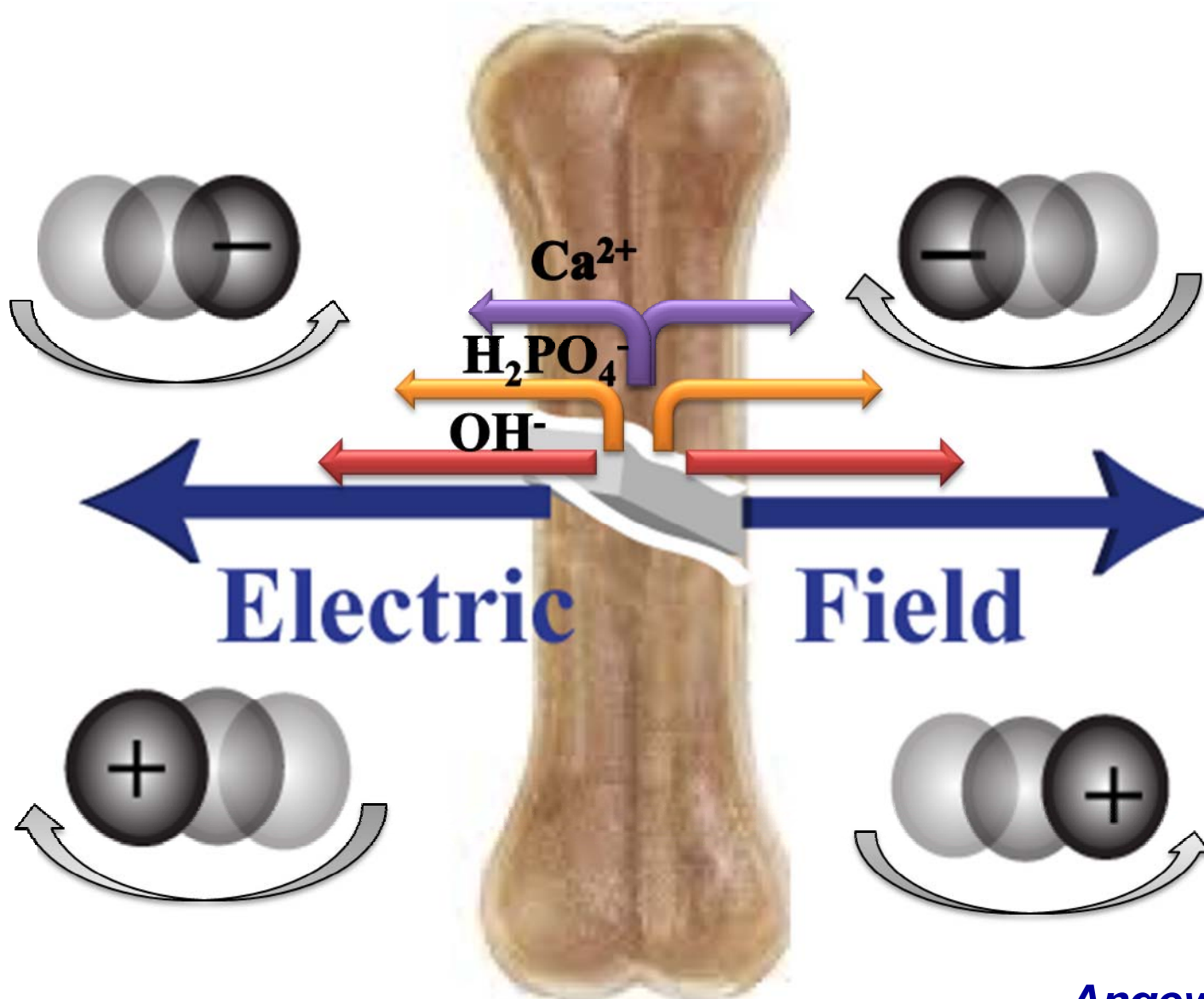
NOR Gate



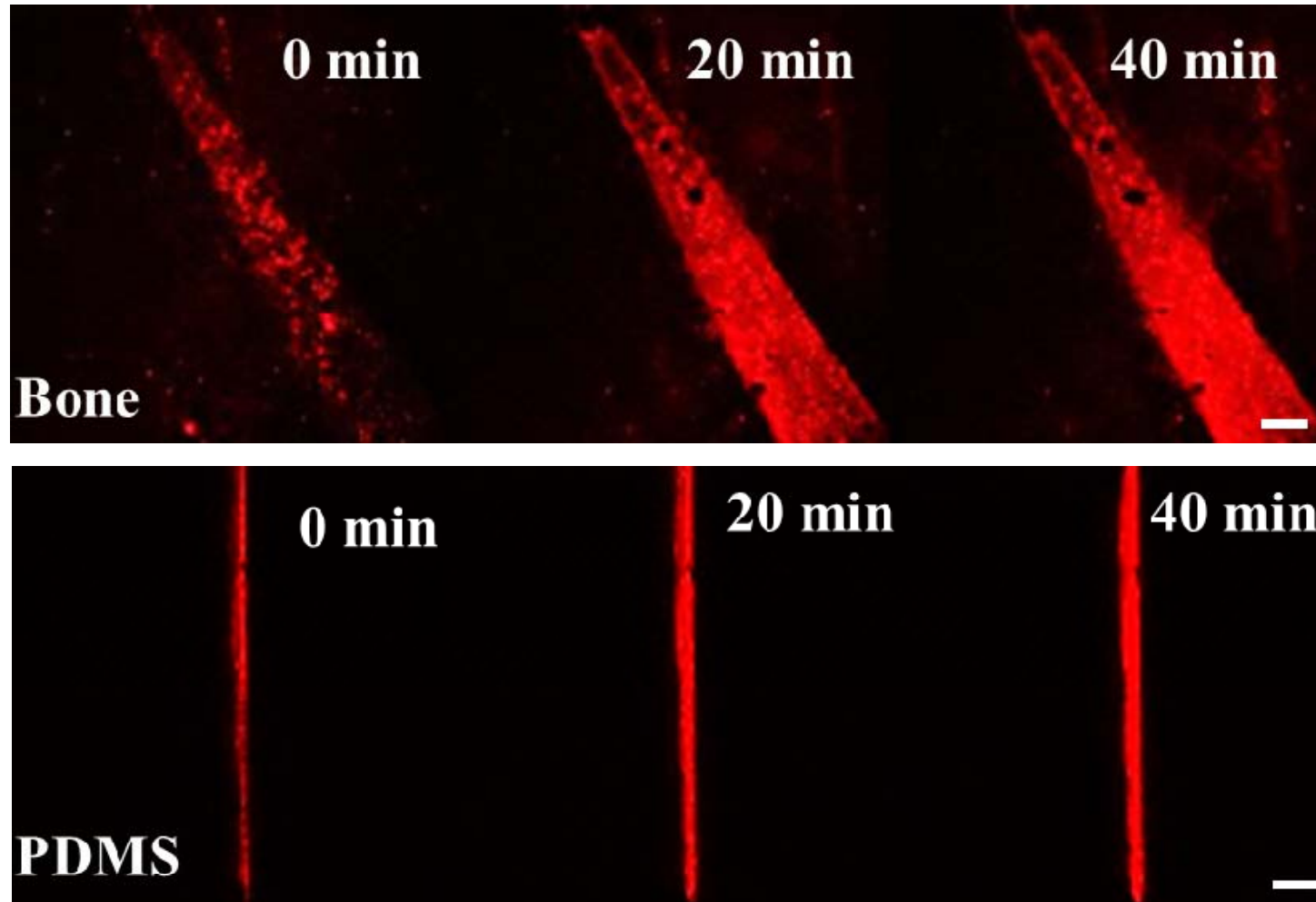
A=UV B=NH ₃			
INPUT		OUTPUT	
A	B	A NOR B	
0	0	1	
0	1	0	
1	0	0	
1	1	0	

NOR Gate with UV and ammonia as inputs, collective behaviors as outputs: “schooling” and “exclusion” behaviors as 1 and 0, respectively.

Bone-Crack Detection, Targeting and Repair Using Ion Gradients



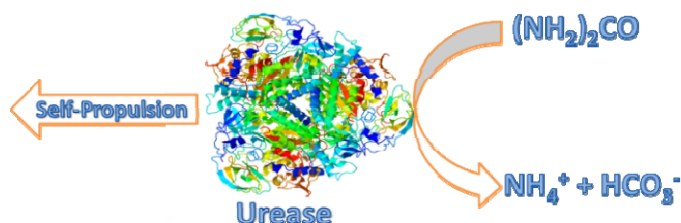
Angew. Chem., 2013



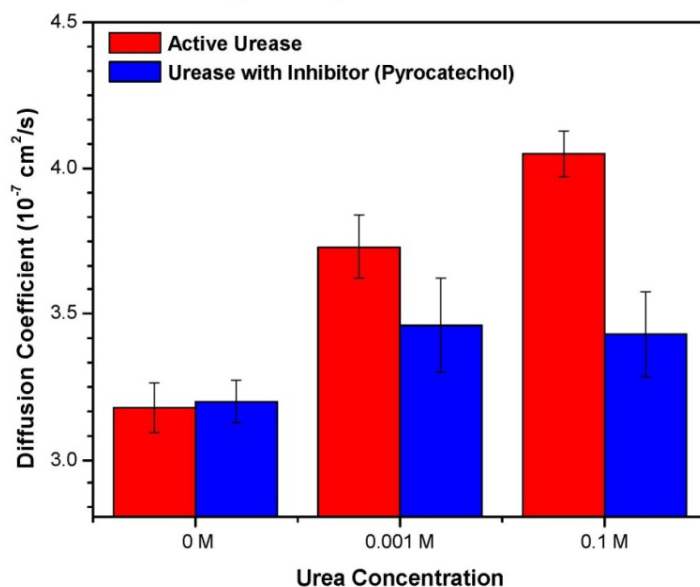
Increasing quantum dot intensity within the crack on bone surface (top) and PDMS surface (bottom) demonstrating an effective damage detection scheme. Scale bar is 60 μm .

Scaling Down to Single Molecules

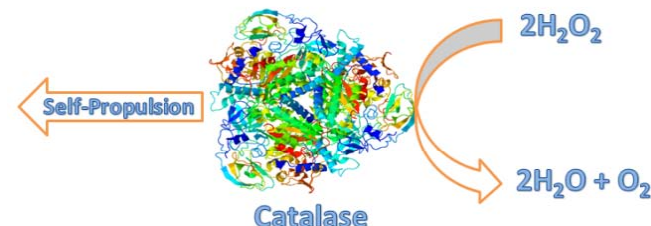
Substrate Catalysis Enhances *Single* Enzyme Diffusion



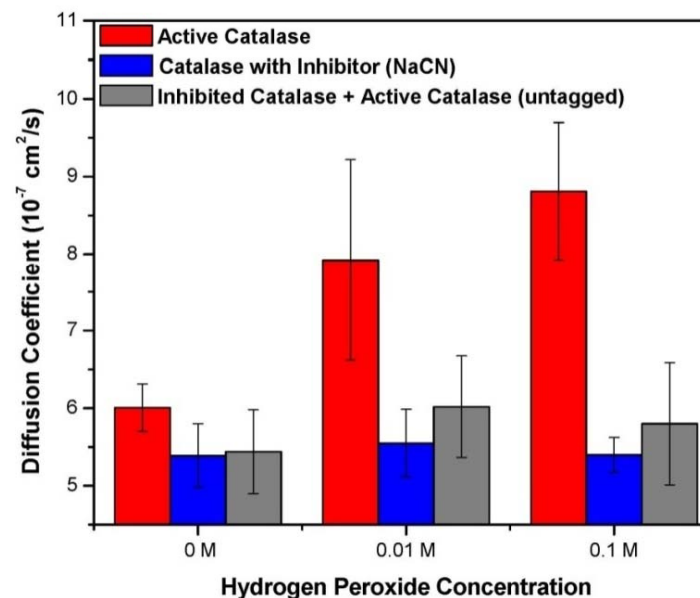
Single Enzyme Urease Diffusion



Diffusion of urease increases with increasing substrate concentration



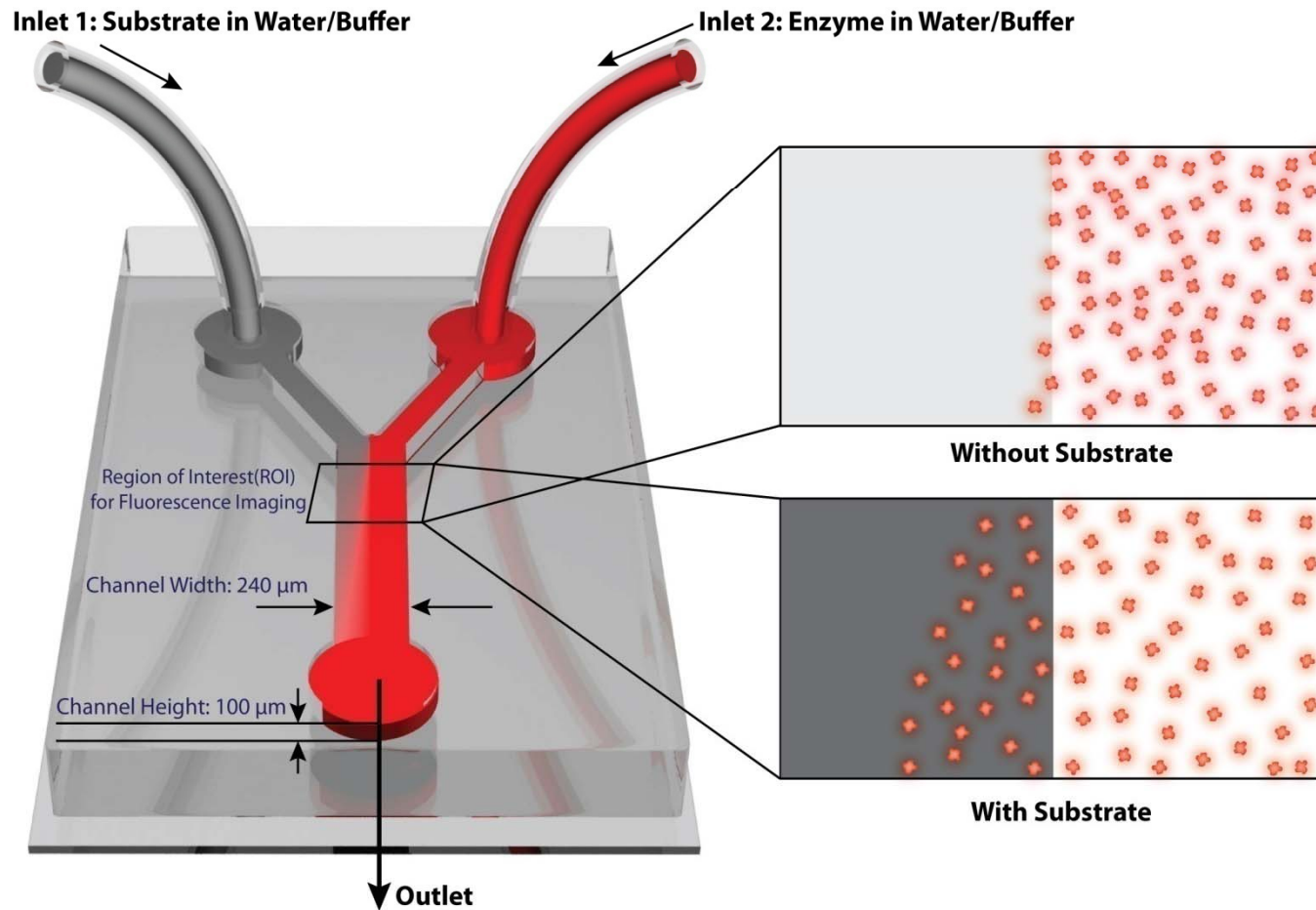
Single Enzyme Catalase Diffusion



Diffusion of catalase increases with increasing substrate concentration

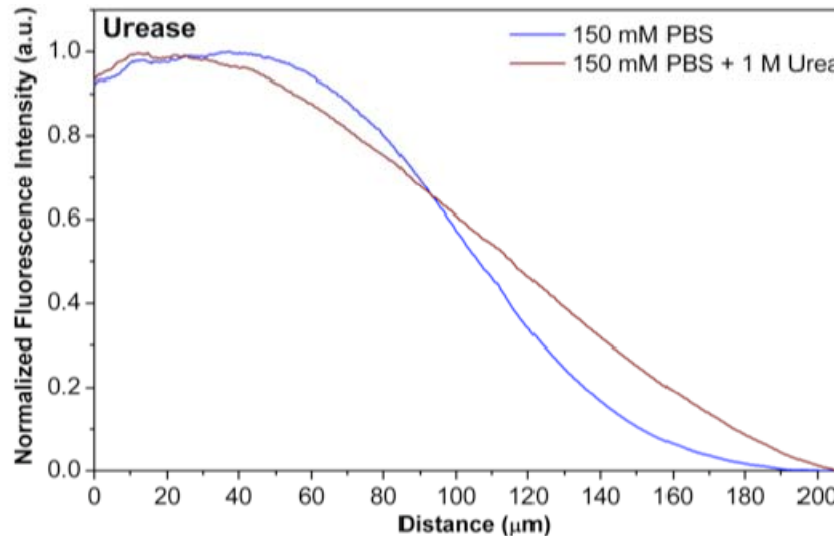
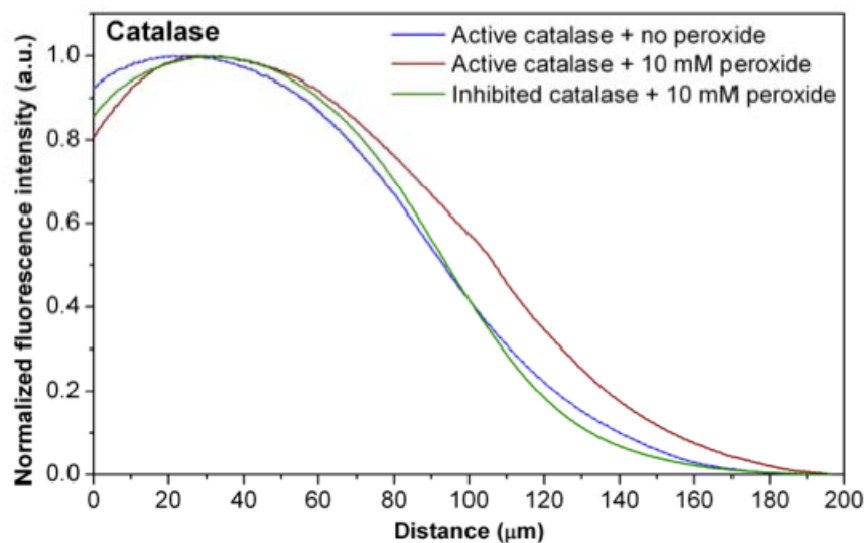
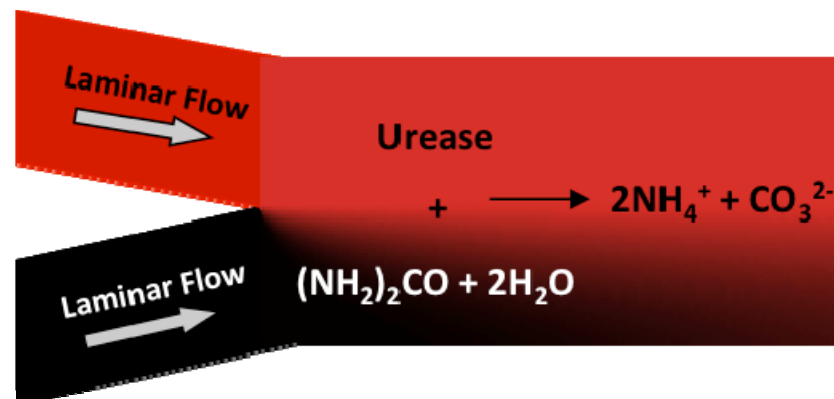
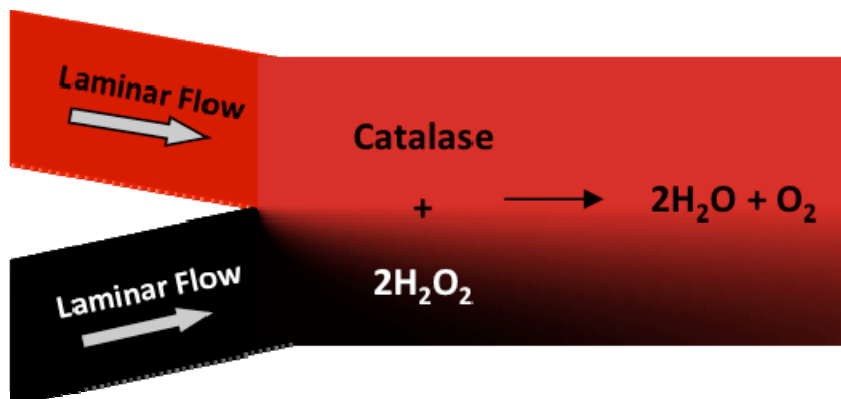
Butler and Sen, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2010, 2013
Also: Schwartz et al., 2009

“Chemotaxis” of Enzyme Molecules



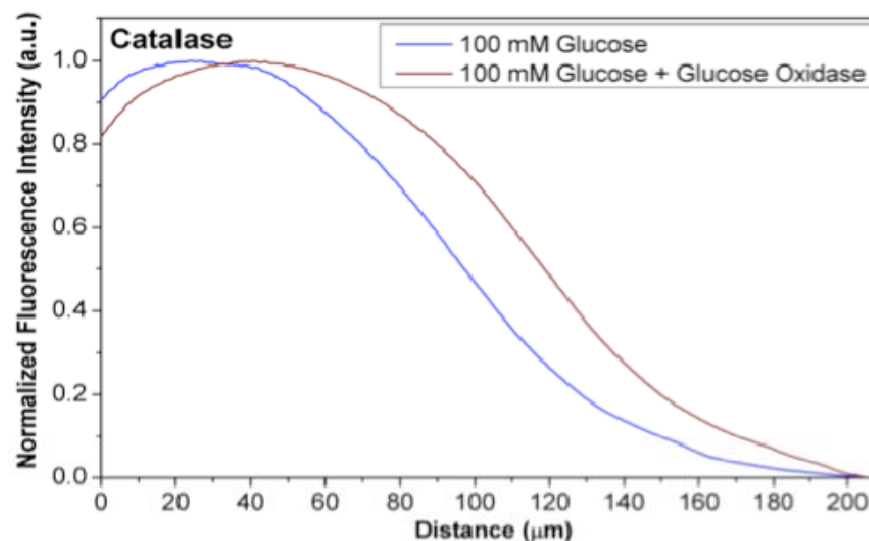
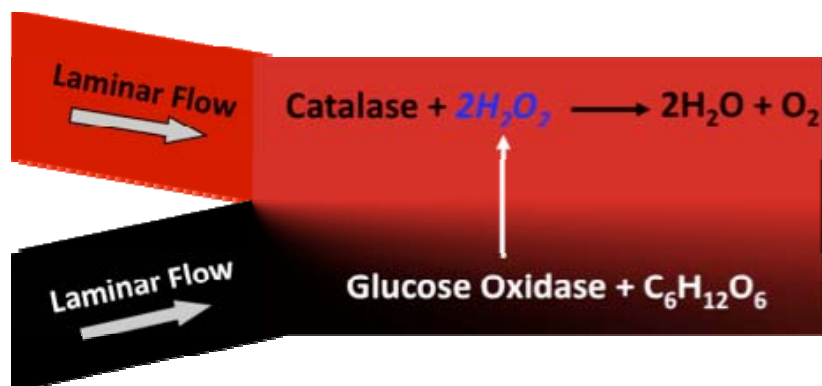
A Y-shaped microfluidic device generates a gradient in the concentration of substrate, the fuel for an enzyme

Chemotaxis of Single Enzyme Molecules



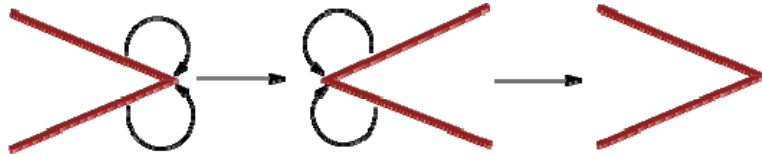
Directed Movement of Catalase towards Glucose Oxidase

Engineering Cooperativity at the Single Molecule Level

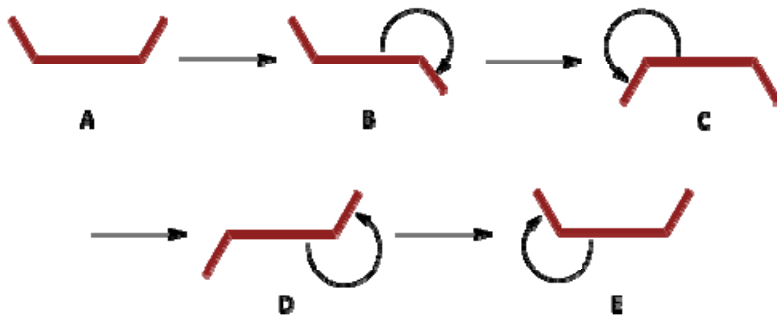


J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2013

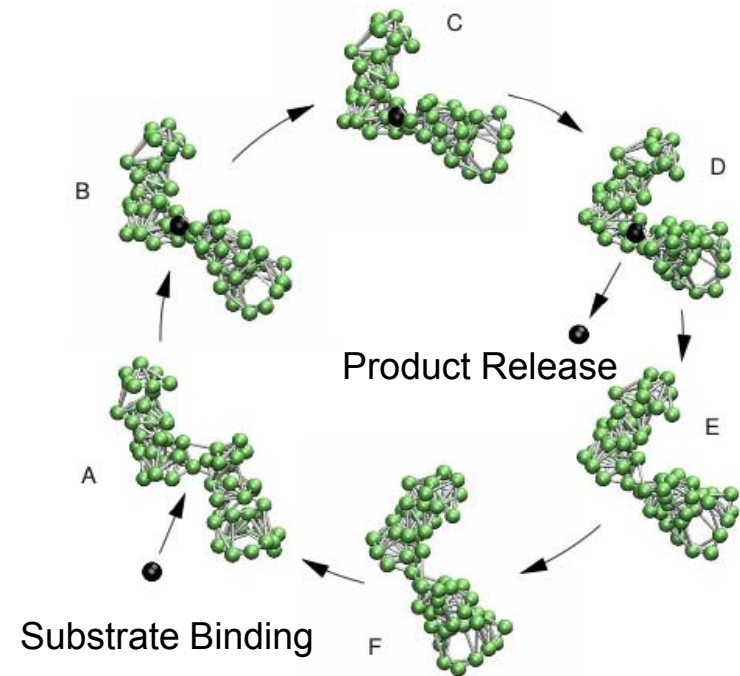
Applicability of the Scallop Theorem



At low Reynolds number propulsion by time-reversible reciprocal motion not possible? (**Scallop Theorem**)

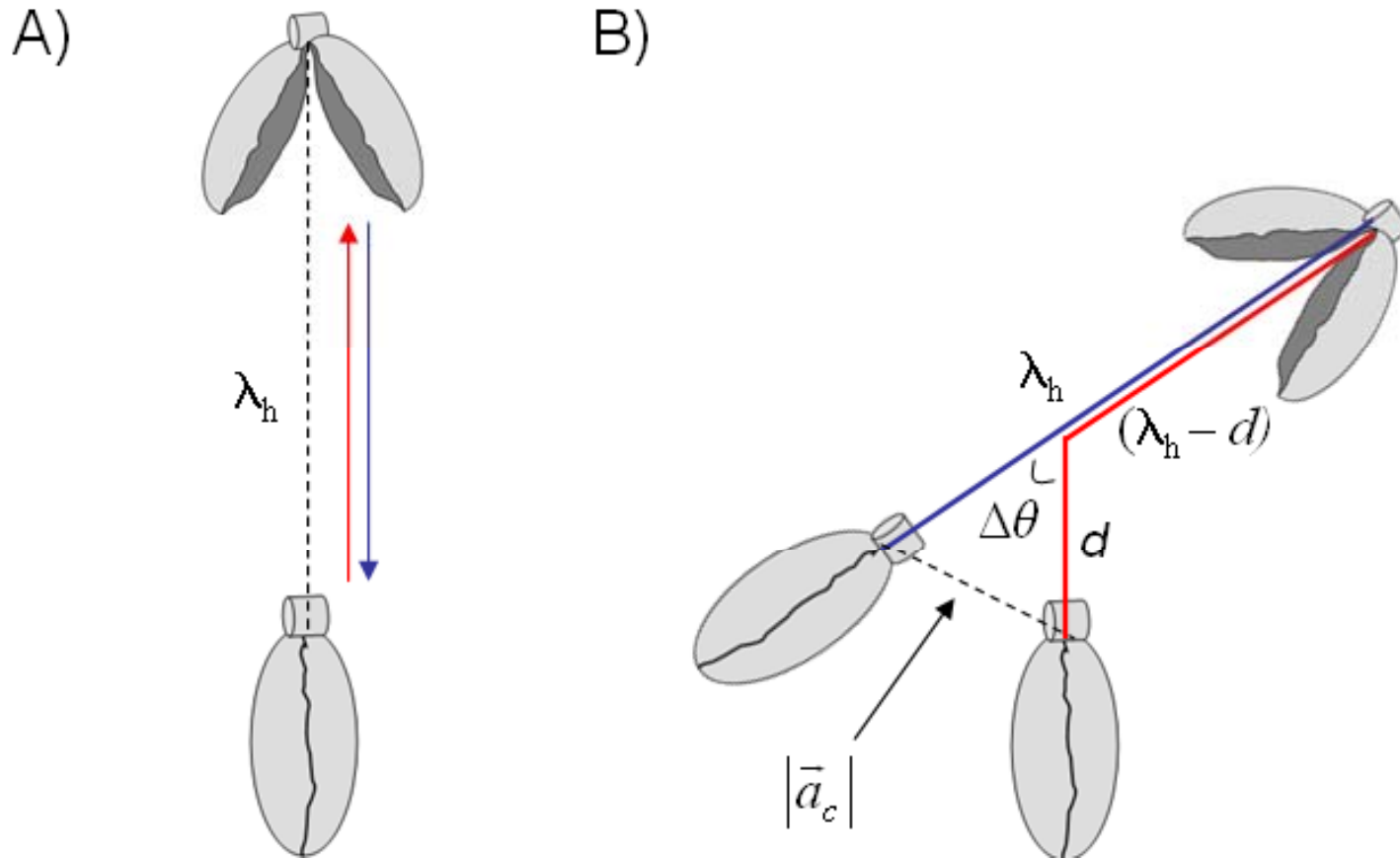


At low Reynolds number propulsion by non-reciprocal motion can be achieved.



Non-reciprocal conformational changes in a model enzyme

Kapral, Mikhailov, *Eur. Phys. J. B*, 2010
Golestanian, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 2010



A) The reciprocal swim cycle of an unperturbed scallop opening and closing its shell.

B) The motion path of a similar swimmer which undergoes a single rotation *after* it has traveled a distance (d) into its cycle.

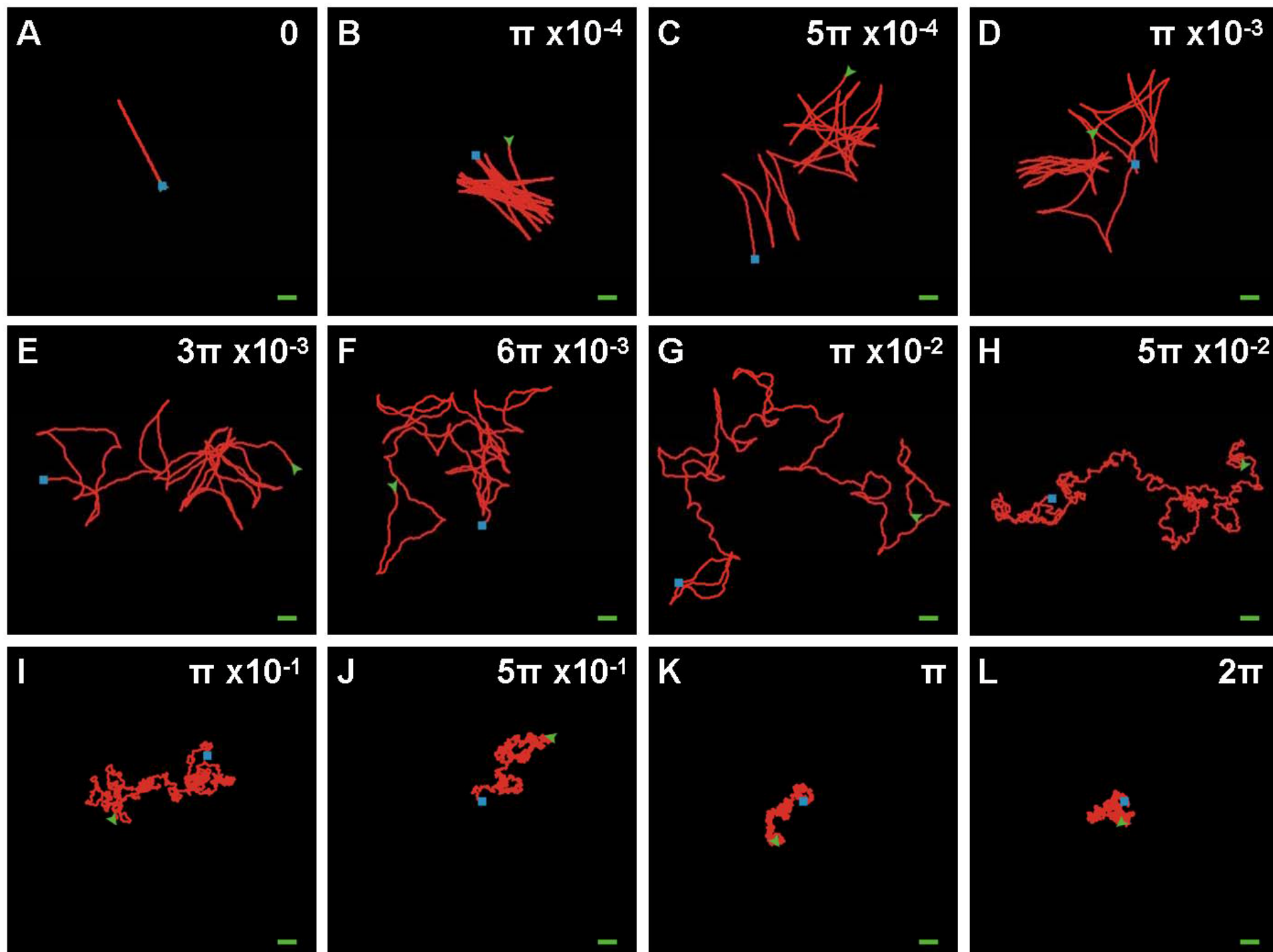
The *forward* paths are shown in **red**,
the *return* paths are shown in **blue**.

Also, Lauga, *PRL*, 2011

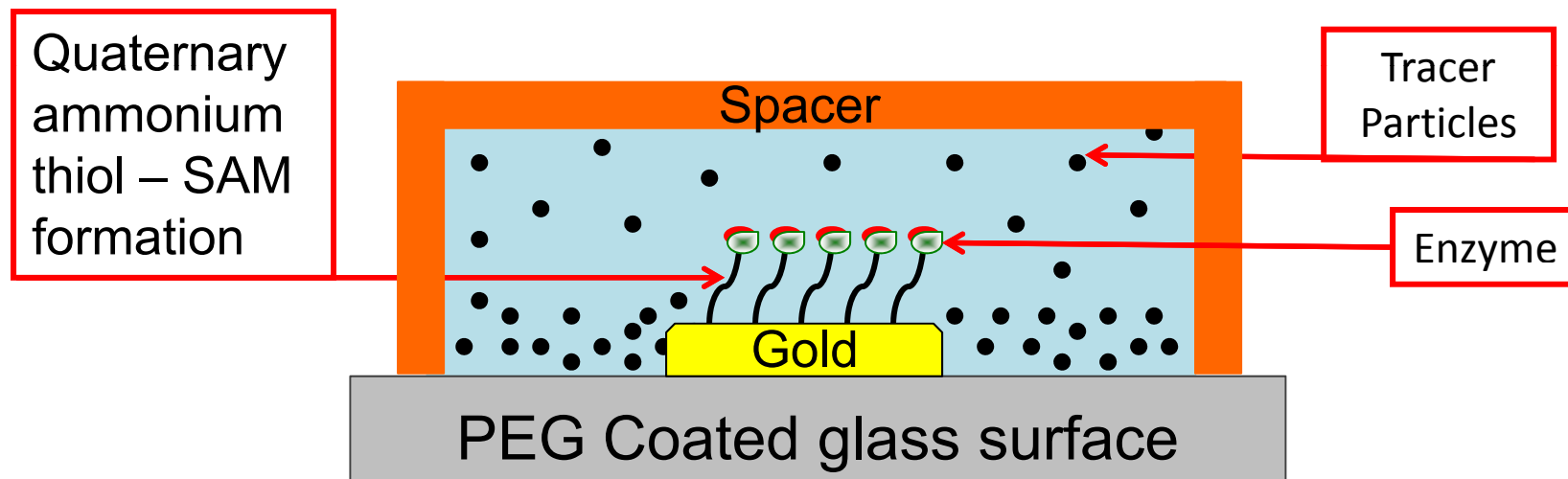
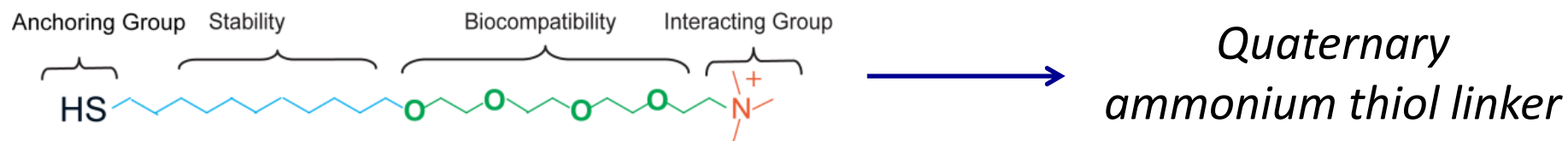
Video showing the reciprocal motion of twelve simulated reciprocal swimmers, each with different D_{Rot} values. Swimmers are shown sequentially with increasing D_{Rot} values, which are listed for each motor in the video.

$D_{Rot} = 0 \text{ rad}^2 / \text{timestep}$



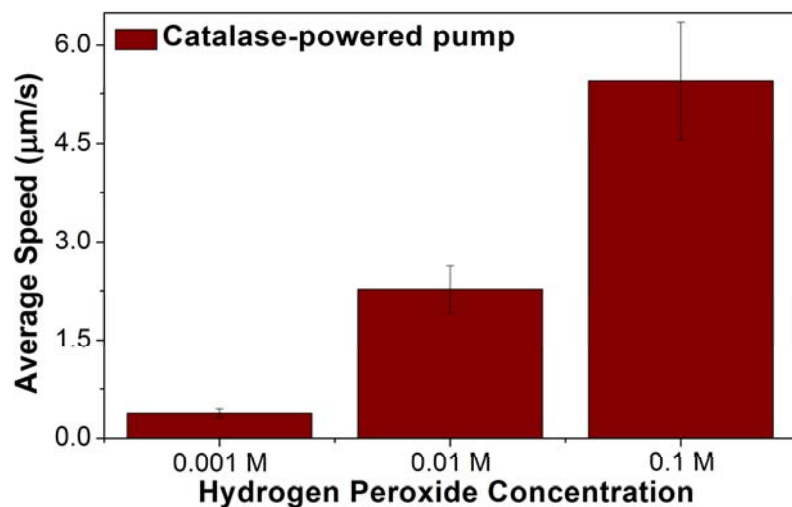


Enzyme-Powered Pumps

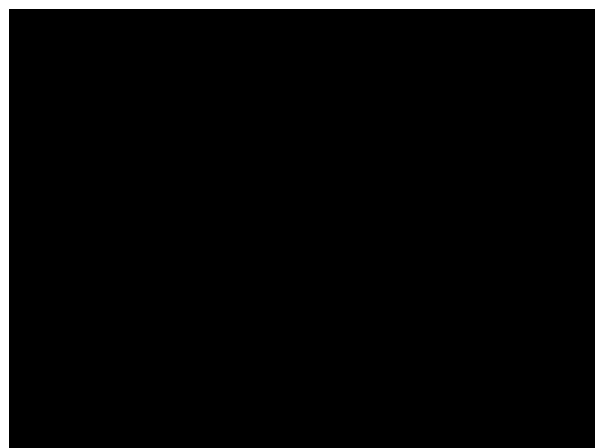
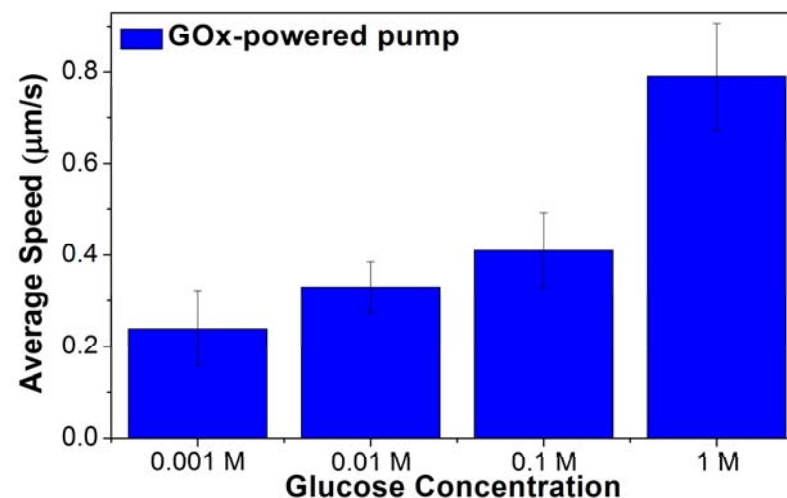


Enzyme-powered Pumps: Catalase and GOx

Catalase Pump

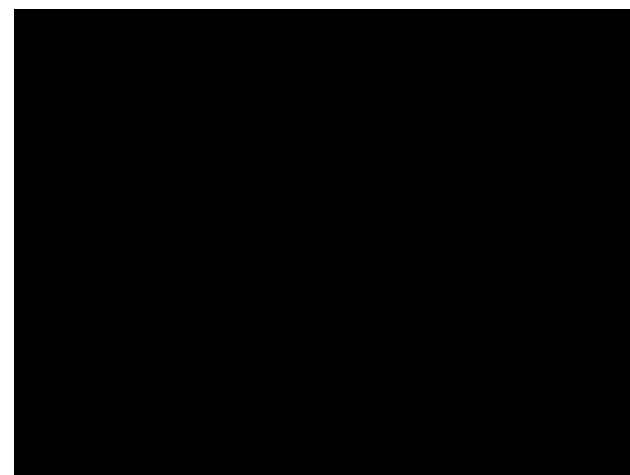


Glucose Oxidase Pump



Catalase in 10 mM H₂O₂

Gold

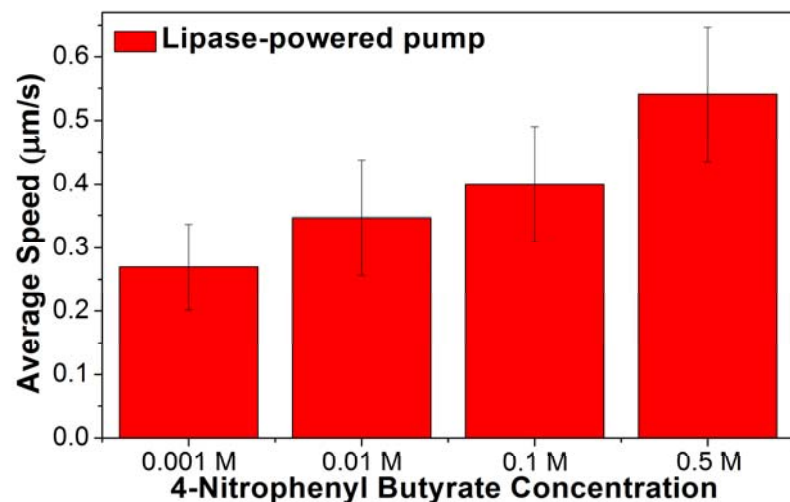


Glucose Oxidase in 1 M Glucose

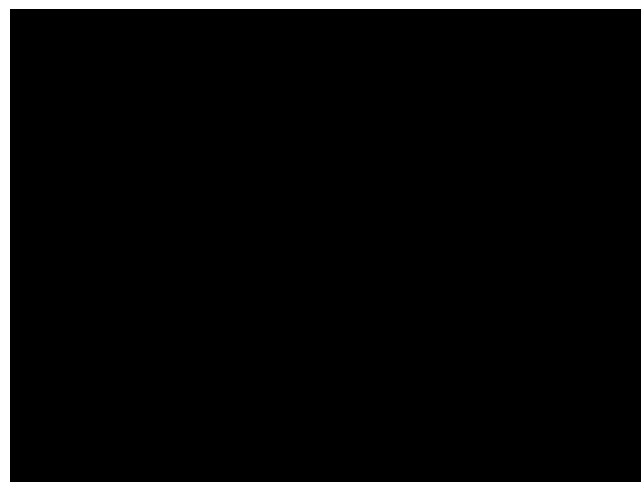
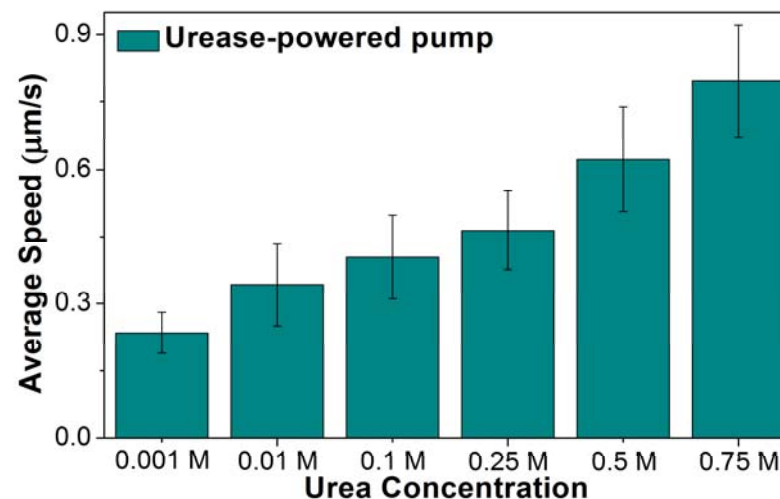
Videos are 5 times faster

Enzyme-powered Pumps: Lipase and Urease

Lipase Pump

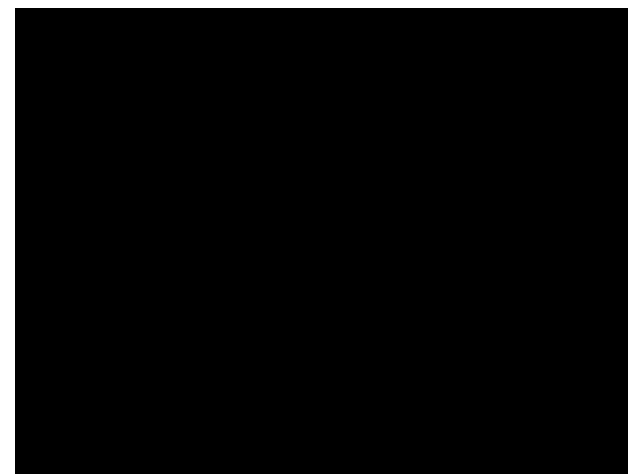


Urease Pump



Lipase in 0.5 M PNB

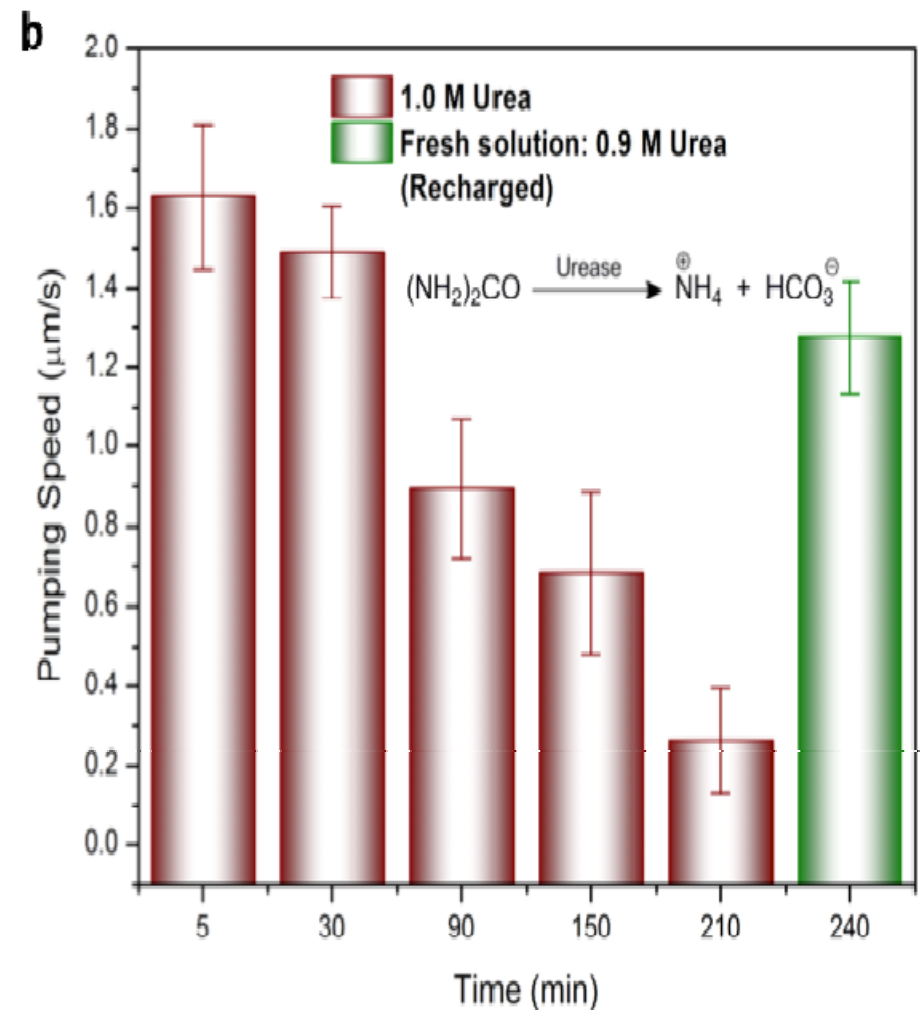
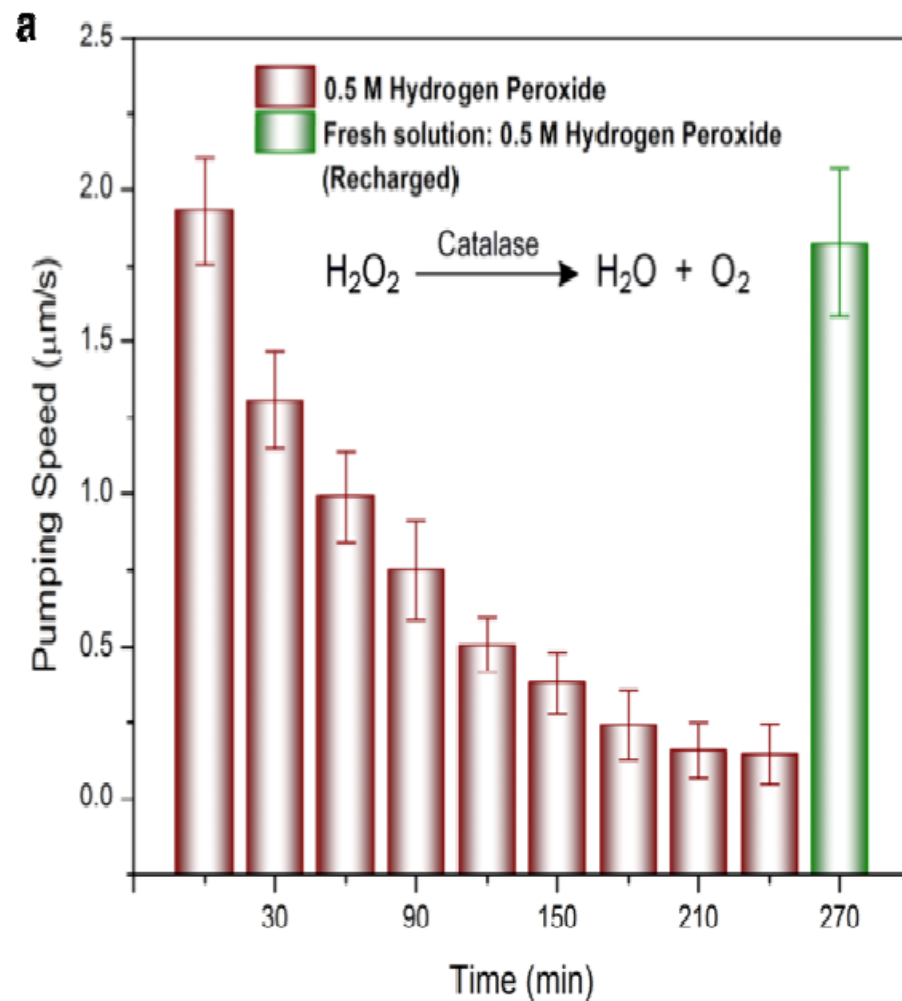
Gold



Urease in 1 M Urea

Videos are 5 times faster

Recharging of Enzyme-Powered Micropumps



Nature Chem., 2014

Triggered Pumping

Glucose Oxidase
+
 $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$



H_2O_2

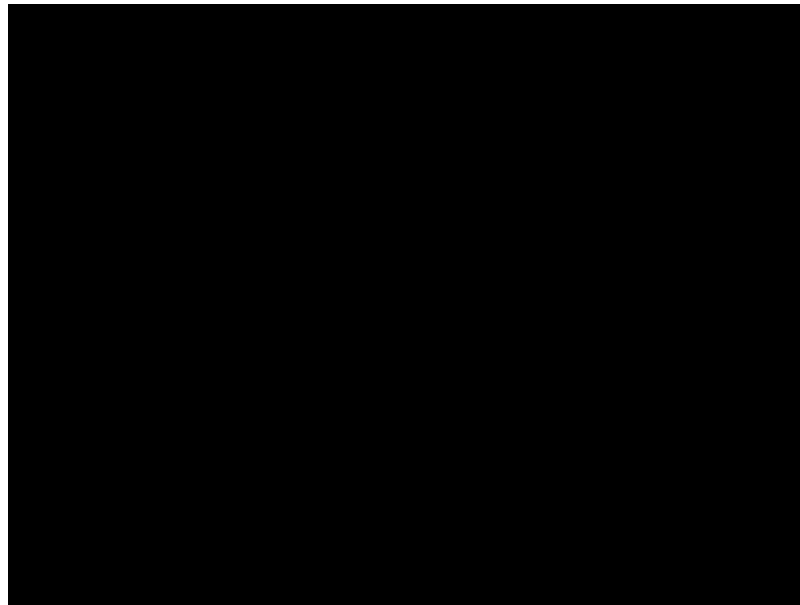


Catalase

$\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$



Gold

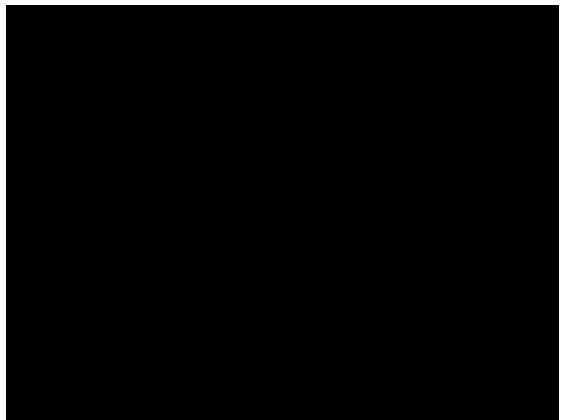


Catalase in 10 mM Glucose and Glucose Oxidase

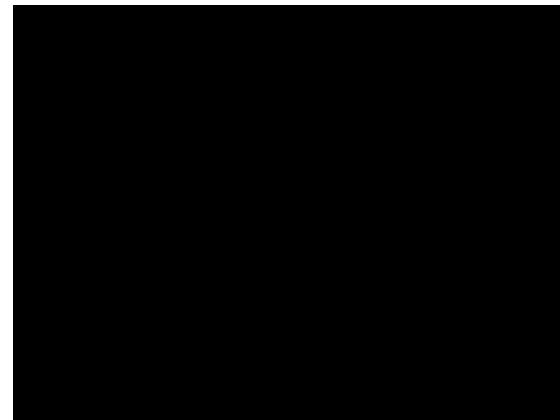
Video 5 times faster

Density-Driven Fluid Pumping

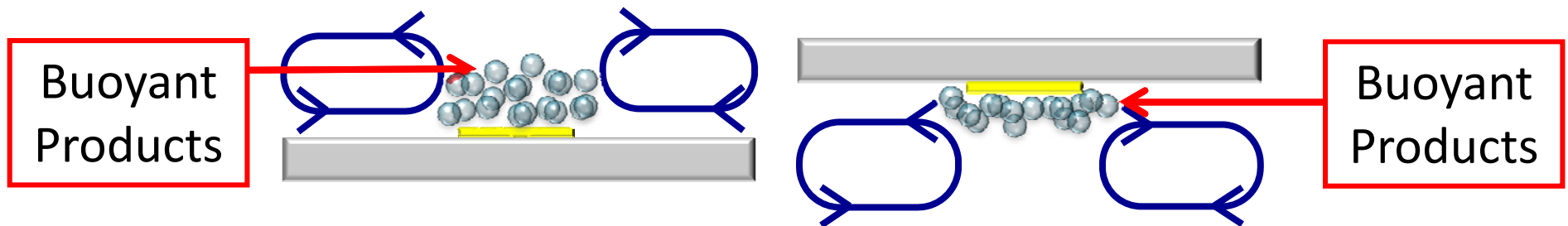
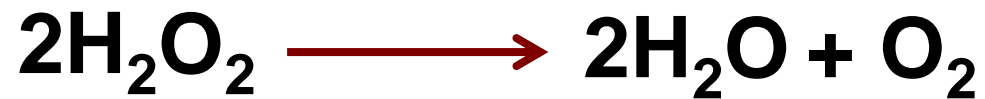
Catalase in 10 mM H_2O_2



Inverted close to the surface



Inverted away to the surface

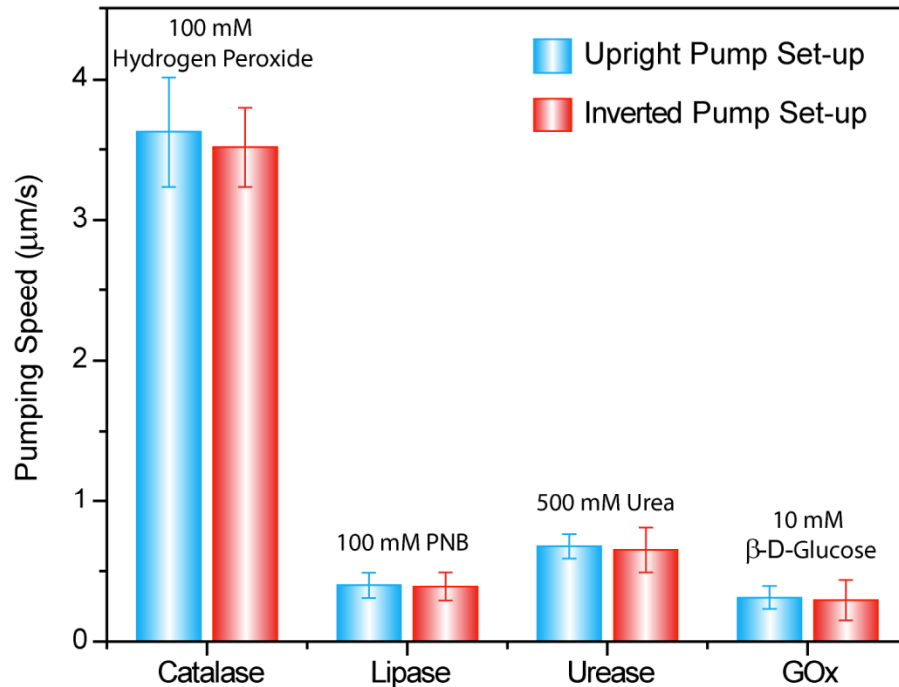


Videos are 5 times faster

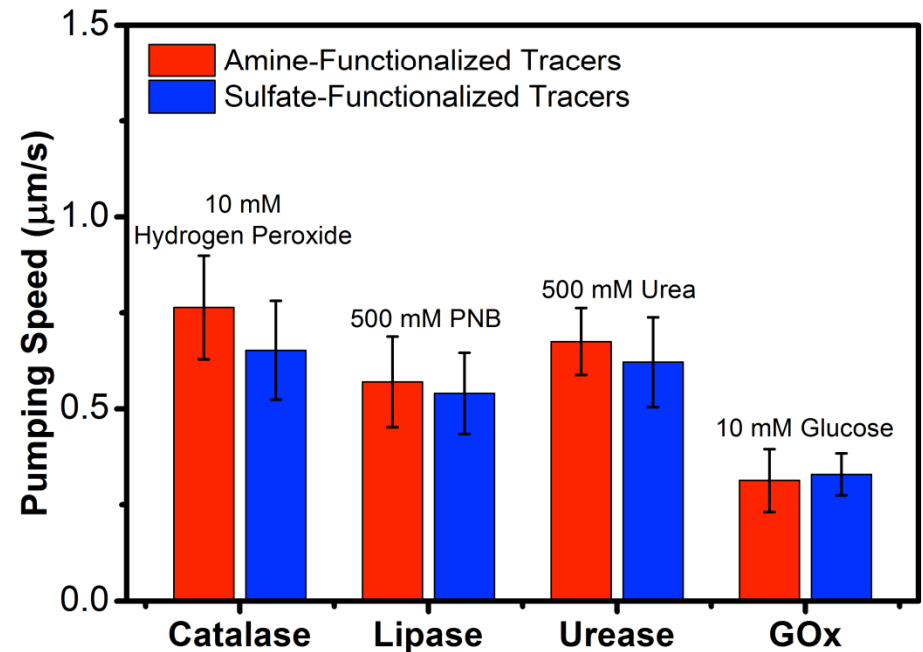
Density-Driven Mechanism



Upright vs. Inverted Setup



Positive vs. Negative Tracers



- Fluid pumping speed remains same in upright and inverted cavity
- Fluid pumping speed and direction remains same with positive and negative tracers

Density-Driven Mechanism

$$V : \frac{g\beta h^3 r \Delta H}{\nu \kappa \pi R^2} f\left(\frac{R}{h}\right)$$

g = gravitational acceleration

β = coefficient of thermal expansion

h = thickness of the fluid layer

r = rate of reaction

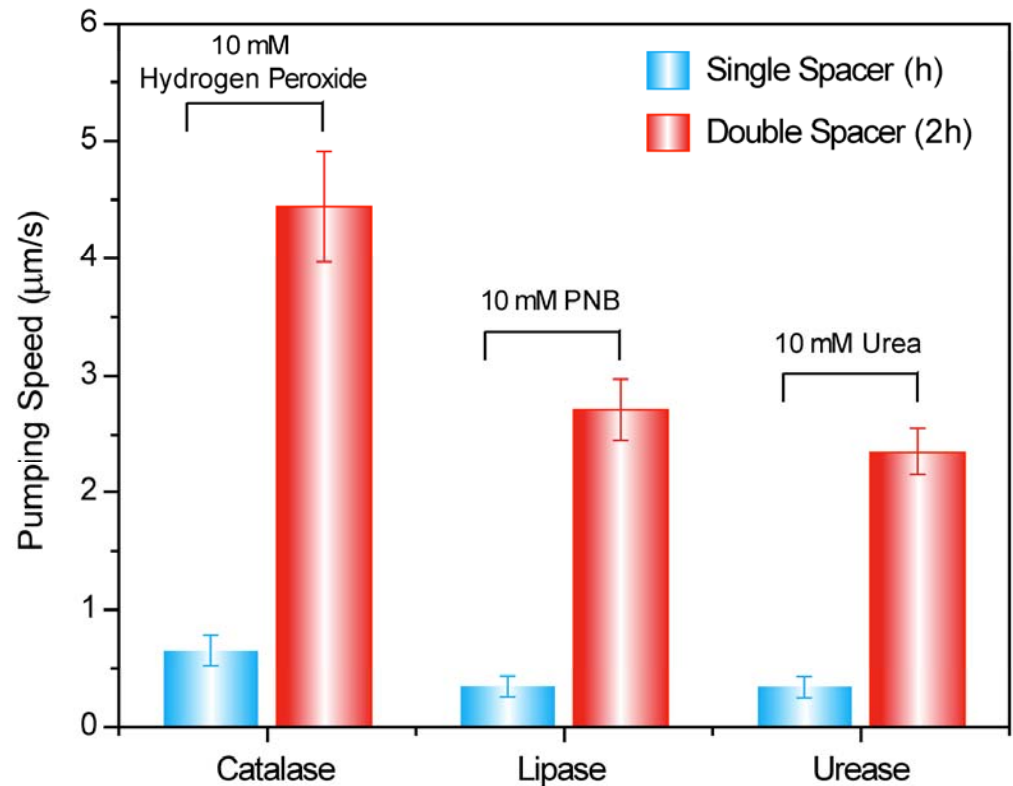
ΔH = enthalpy of reaction

ν = kinematic viscosity

κ = thermal conductivity of fluid

R = Radius of the pump surface

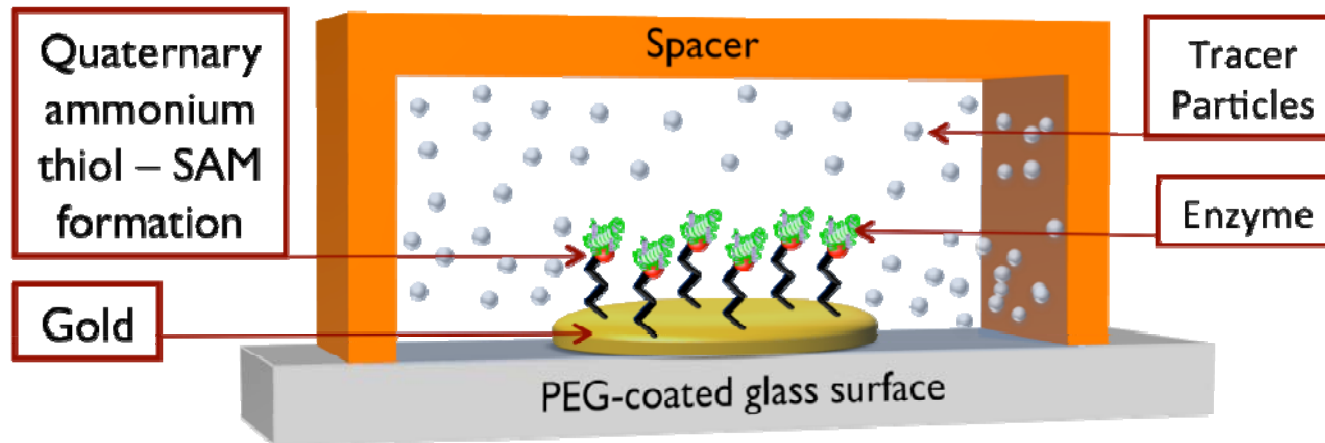
Single (h) vs. Double (2h) Spacer



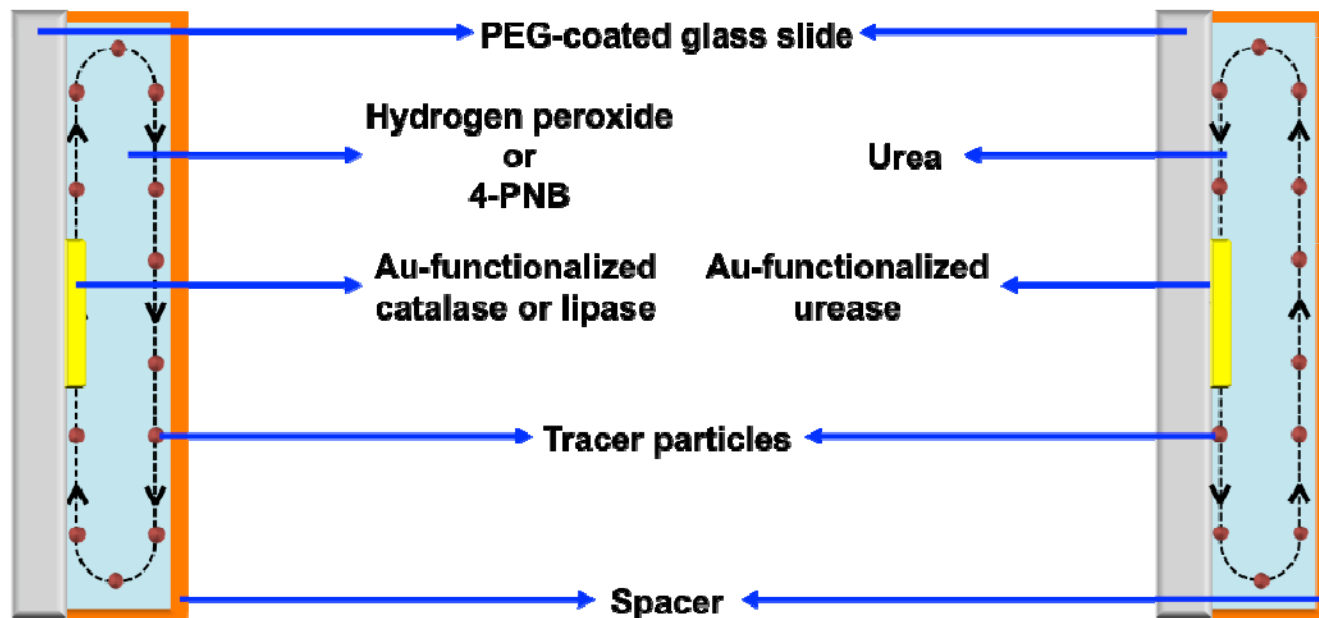
- Fluid pumping speed increases by ~7 times on doubling the cavity height

Fluctuations in Local Fluid Density in Enzyme-powered Micropumps

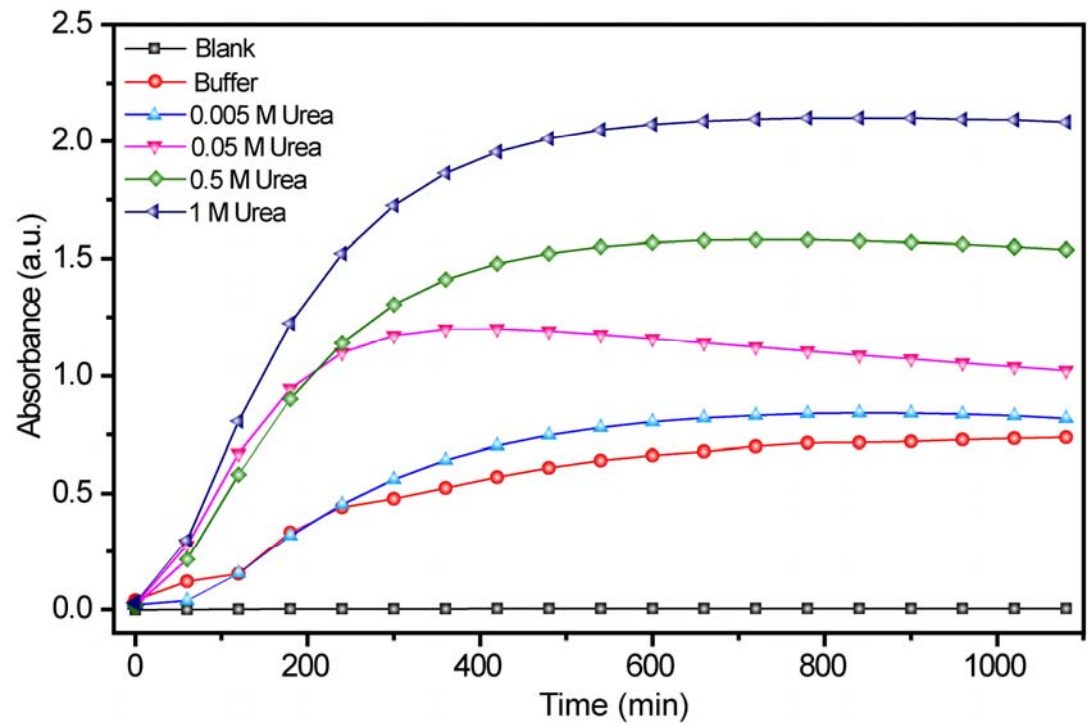
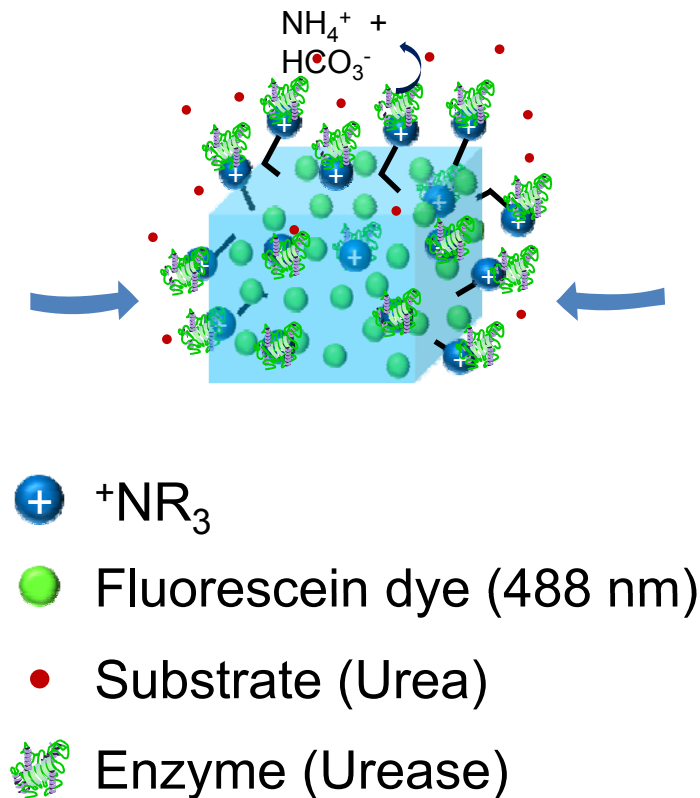
a



b

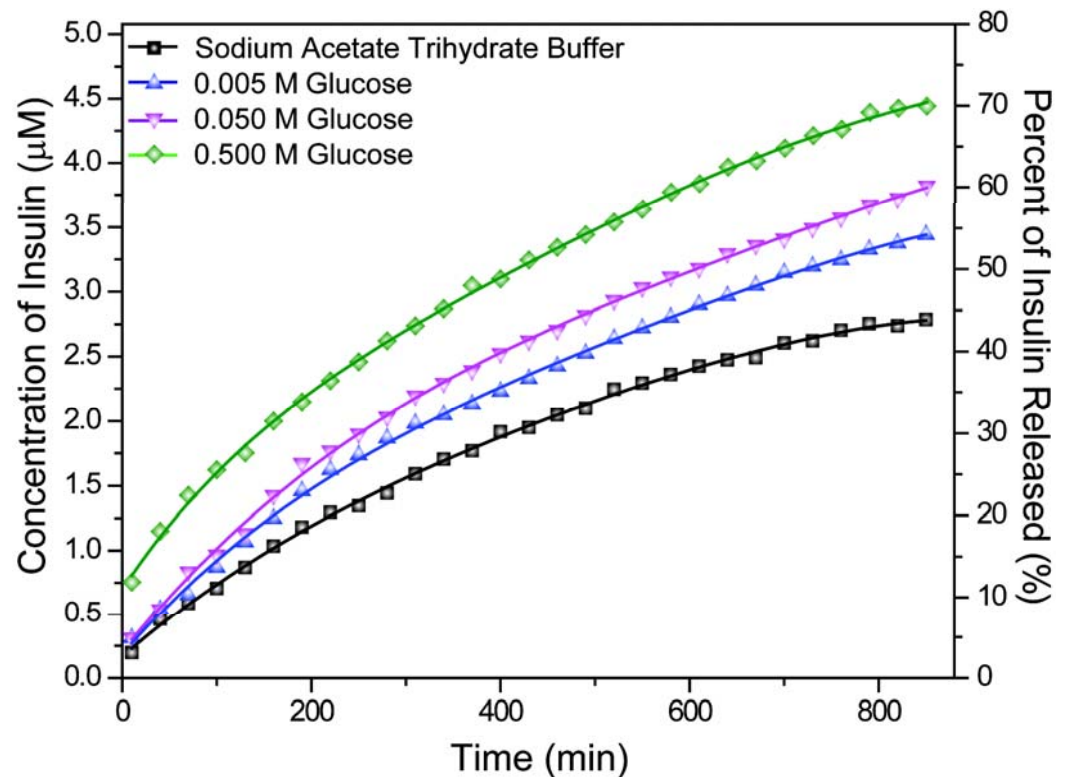
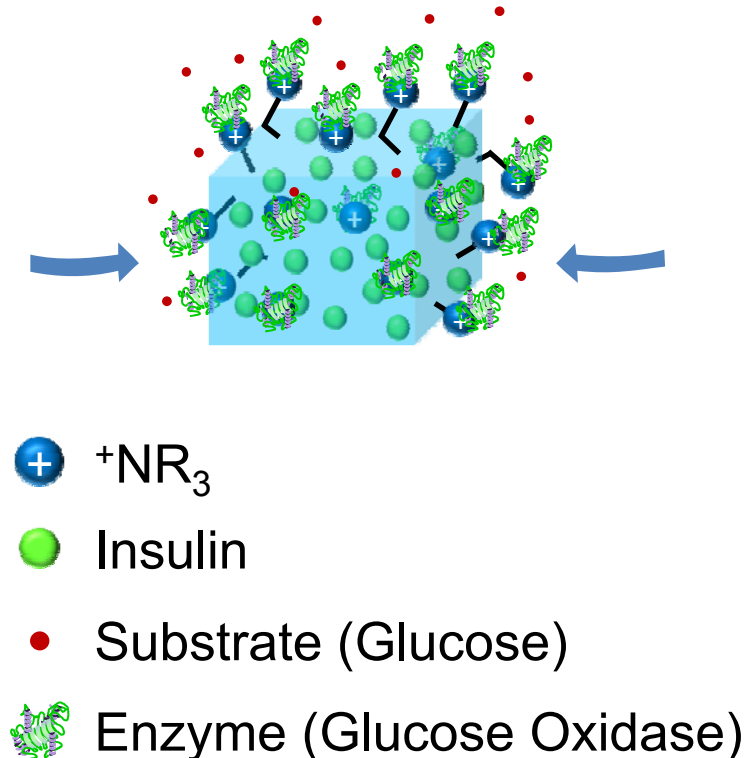


Stimuli-Responsive Release



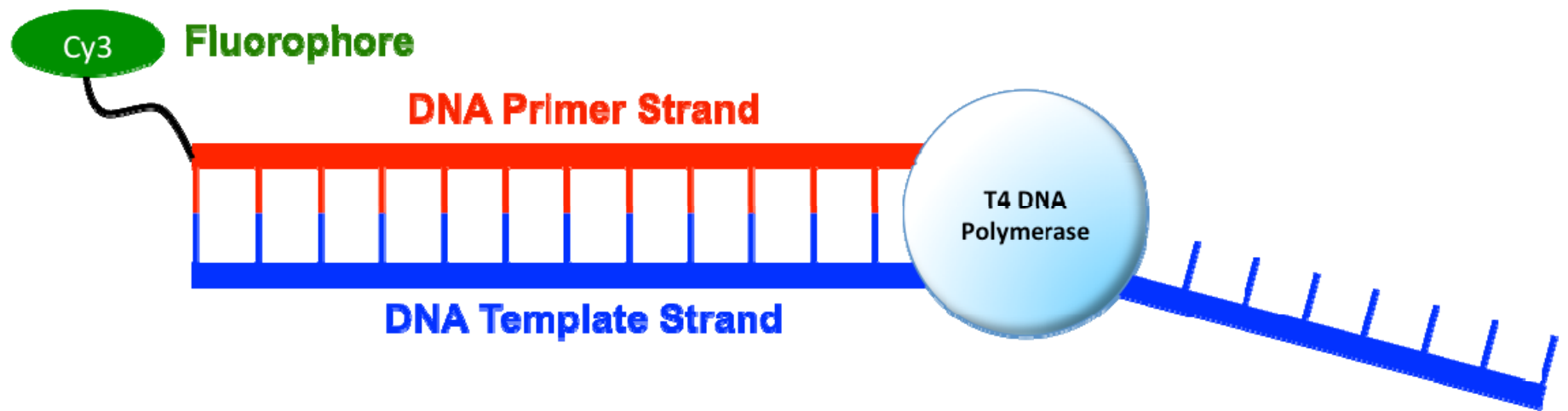
- *Stimuli release autonomous release of small molecules like markers and drugs as a function of substrate concentration*

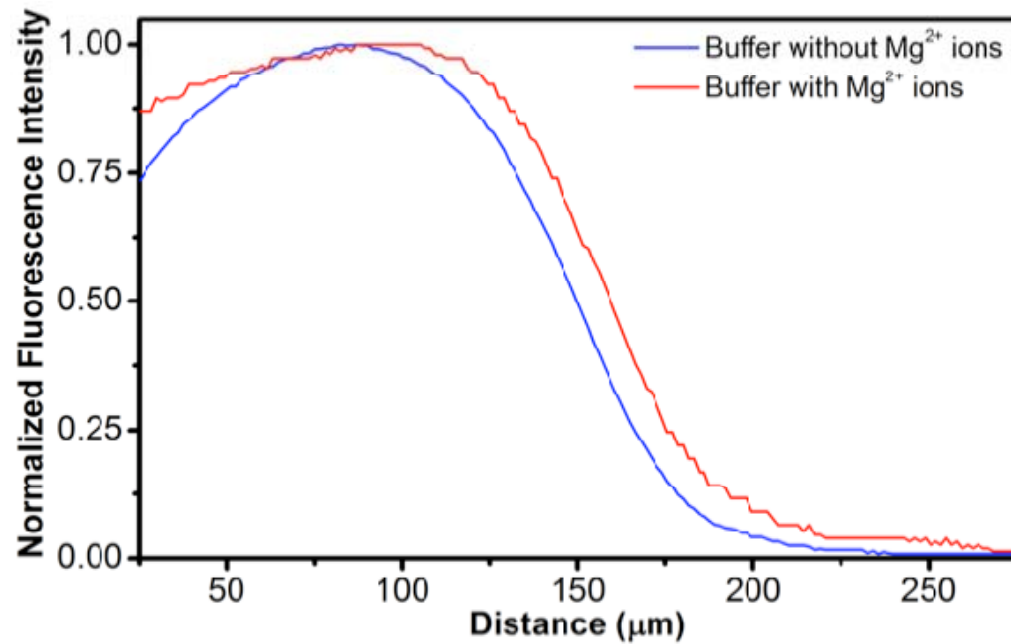
Stimuli-Responsive Release



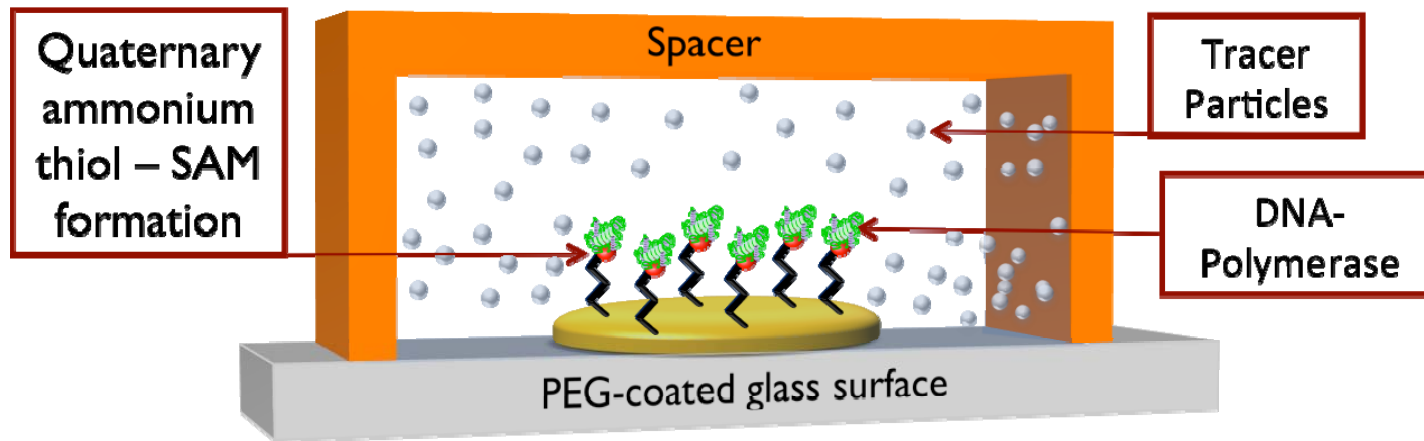
- *Stimuli release autonomous release of small molecules like markers and drugs as a function of substrate concentration*

DNA Polymerase as a Molecular Motor

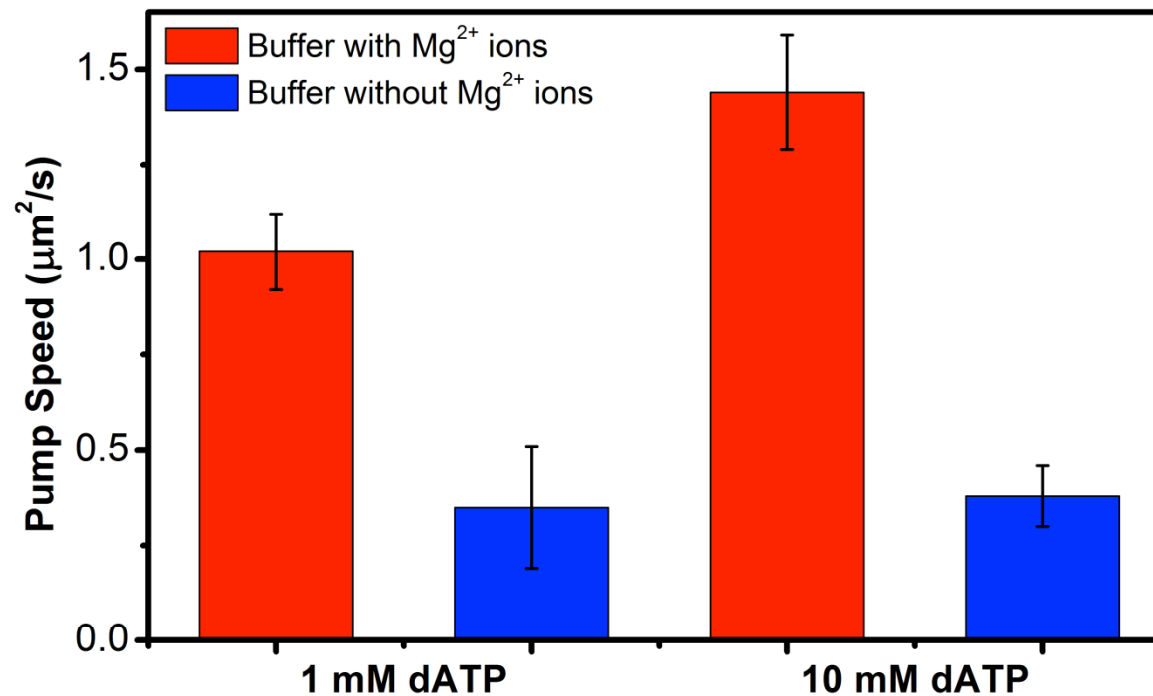




Collective migration of an ensemble of DNA-polymerase complex molecules in response to a concentration gradient of cofactor (Mg^{2+})



Schematic of a DNA/polymerase-powered micropump



Fluid pumping in a DNA-polymerase complex-powered micropump

Calculation of Input Power

$$\text{Number of moles of enzymes over the gold patch} = \frac{7.7 \times 10^{11}}{6.023 \times 10^{23}} = 1.28 \times 10^{-12} \text{ mols}$$

$$\text{Turnover frequency of DNA polymerase in 'idling mode'} = 0.2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\text{Free energy of ATP hydrolysis} = 30.66 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\text{Therefore, input power } P_i = 1.28 \times 10^{-12} \times 0.2 \times 30.66 \times 10^3 \text{ Js}^{-1} = 7.85 \times 10^{-9} \text{ W}$$

Calculation of Output Power

$$\text{Viscosity of the solution, } \eta = 0.001 \text{ Pa.s}$$

$$\text{Area of the bottom surface, } A = 3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2$$

$$\text{Height of the experimental chamber, } h = 1.3 \text{ mm} = 1.3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$

$$\text{Pumping speed, } v = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ ms}^{-1}$$

$$\text{Therefore, output power } P_{out} = \eta A \frac{v}{h} \cdot v = \frac{\eta A v^2}{h} = 2.31 \times 10^{-16} \text{ W}$$

To establish a convective flow of the order of 1 $\mu\text{m/s}$ through a *purely thermal gradient*, the system needs to have a power input of approximately 10^{-4} W

Enzymes as Motors and Pumps

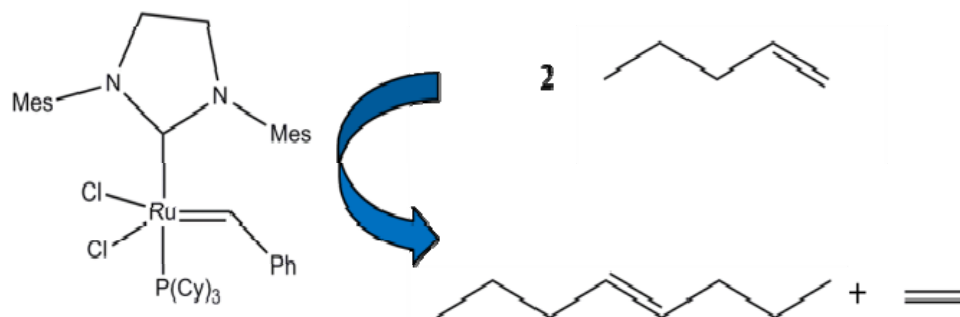
- ❑ Single enzyme molecules generate sufficient mechanical force through substrate turnover to cause their own movement.
- ❑ Movement becomes directional through the imposition of a gradient in substrate concentration.
- ❑ All enzymes, and not just ATP-dependent enzymes, may act as pumps.
- ❑ Enzyme Pump: Precisely controlled flow rate and turns on in response to specific analyte. Cargo (e.g., drug) delivery on demand.

**Results open up a new area of mechanobiology:
Intrinsic force generation by non ATP-dependent enzymes
and their role in biochemical regulation of cell function**

Even Smaller Organometallic Molecular Motor

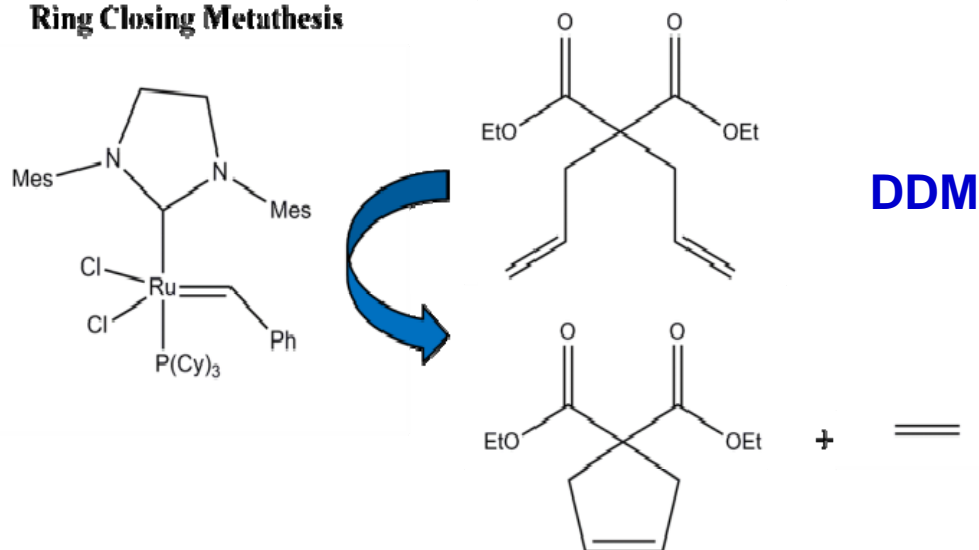
Grubbs catalyst

Cross Metathesis



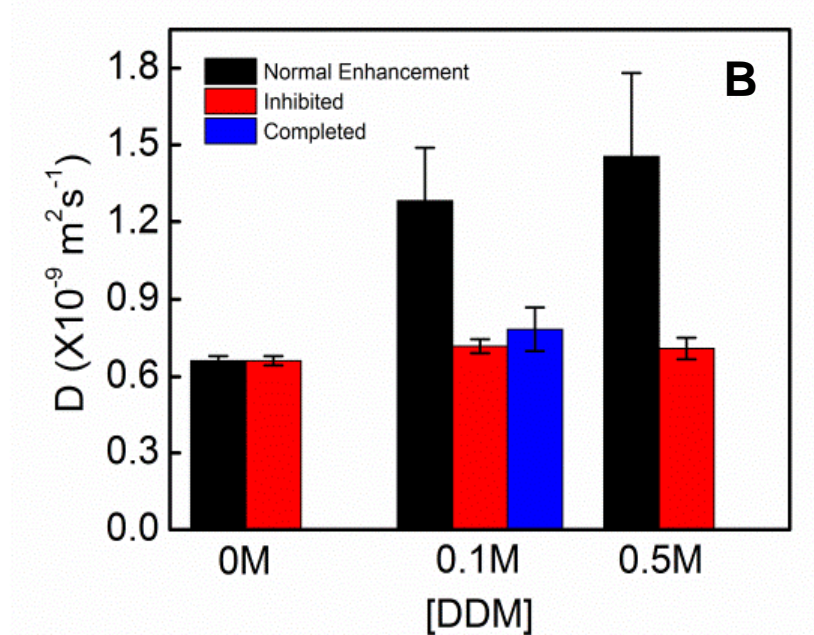
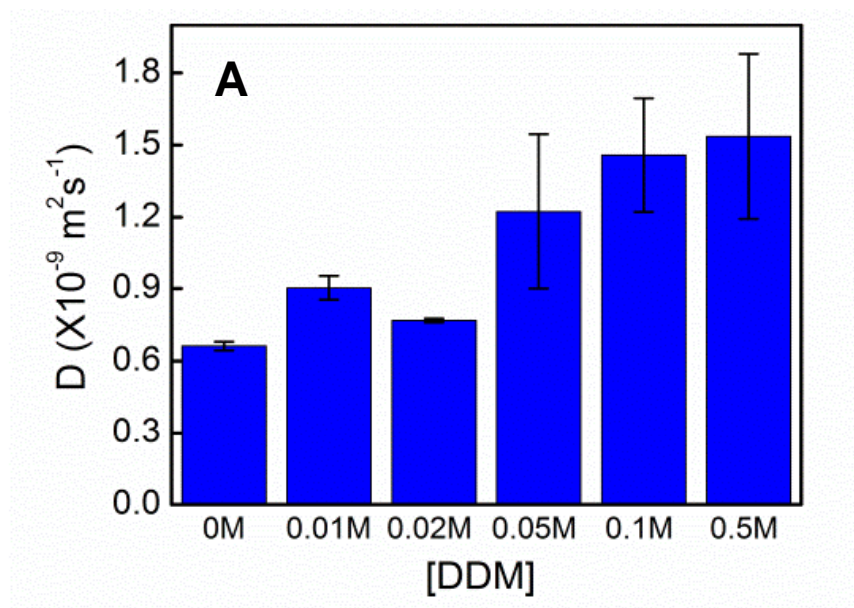
Grubbs catalyst

Ring Closing Metathesis



Nanoscale, 2014

Diffusion Coefficient by NMR Spectroscopy



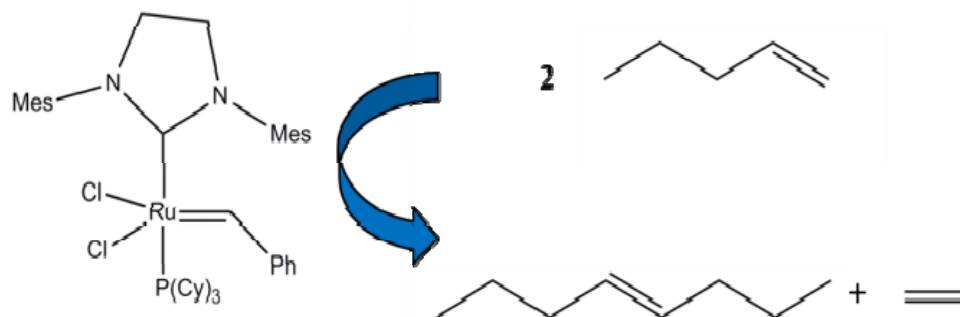
(A) Diffusion coefficients of catalyst over a range of concentrations of DDM.

(B) The diffusion coefficient is reduced to the base value in presence of the inhibitor and when the reaction reaches equilibrium.

Even Smaller Organometallic Molecular Motor

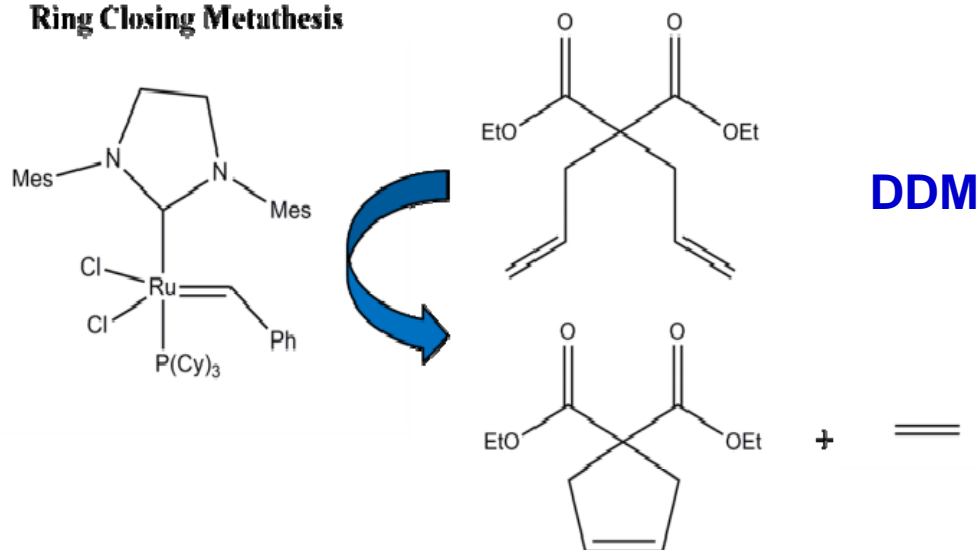
Cross Metathesis

Grubbs catalyst

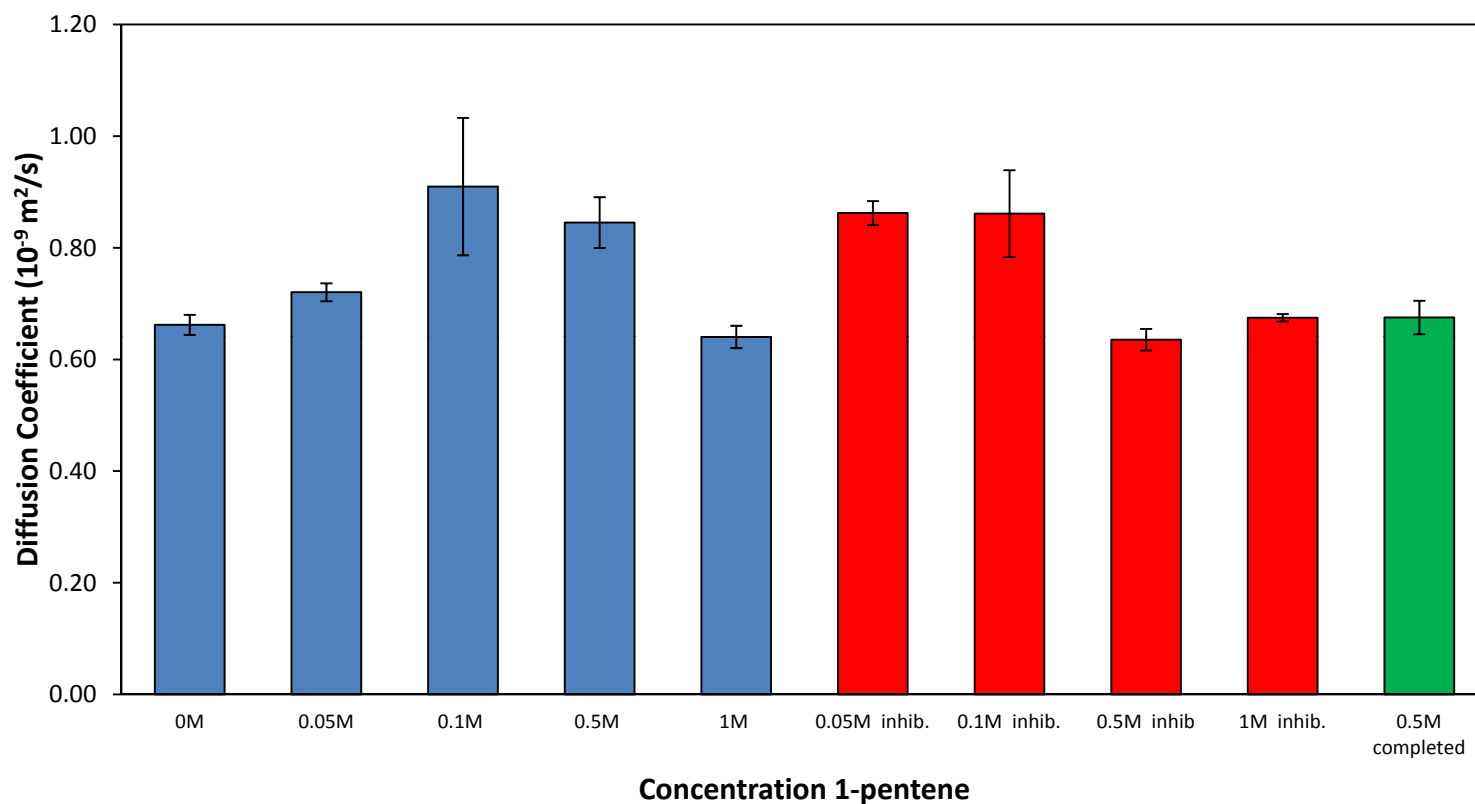


Ring Closing Metathesis

Grubbs catalyst

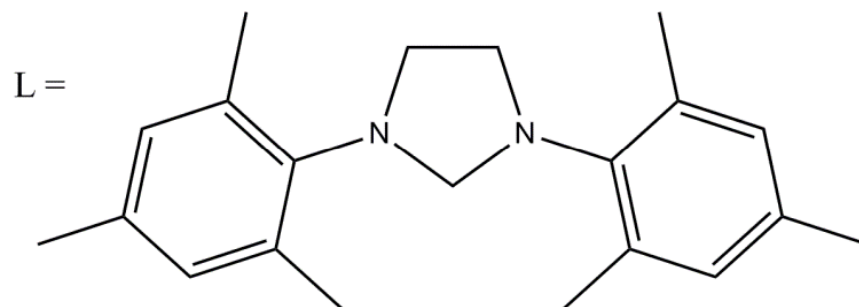
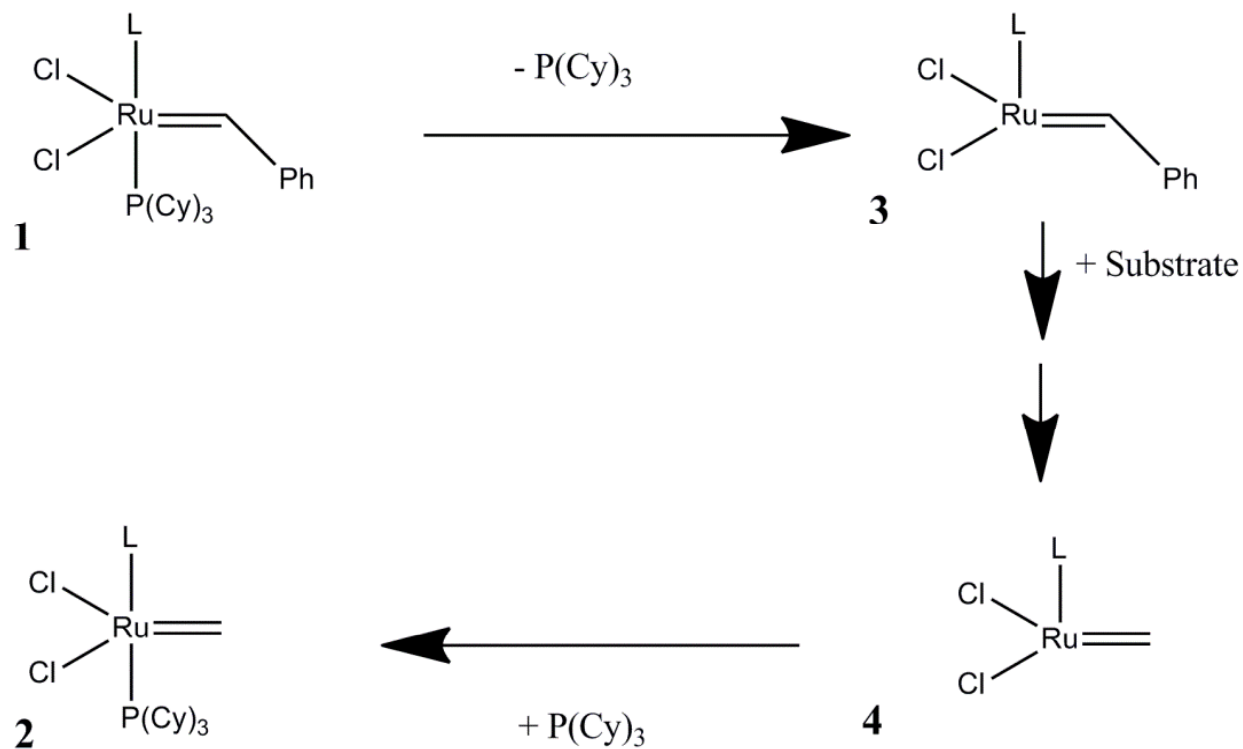


Diffusion Coefficient by NMR Spectroscopy

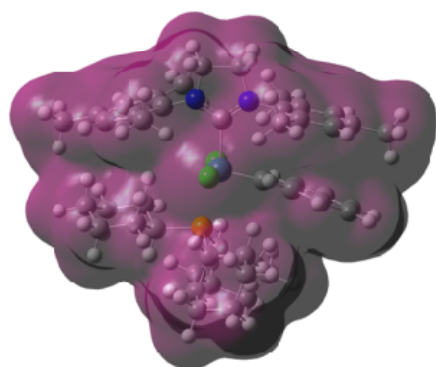


**Diffusion coefficient at various concentrations of 1-pentene.
No significant change in diffusion was observed.**

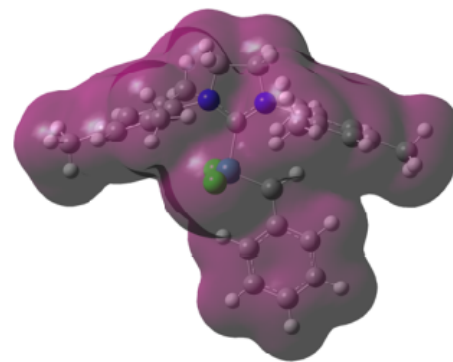
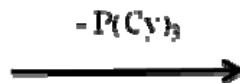
Structural Changes to the Catalyst During Catalytic Cycle



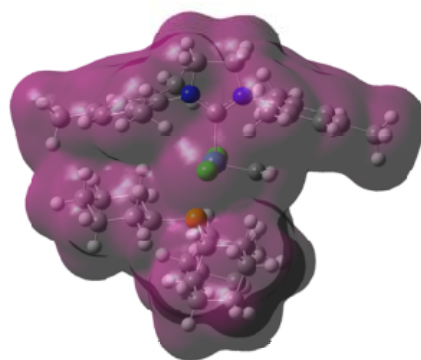
DFT Calculated Structures



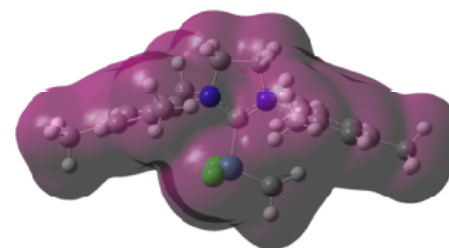
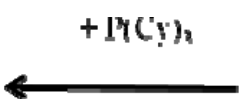
$R = 6.18 \text{ \AA}$



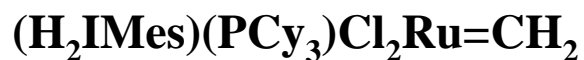
$R = 5.18 \text{ \AA}$



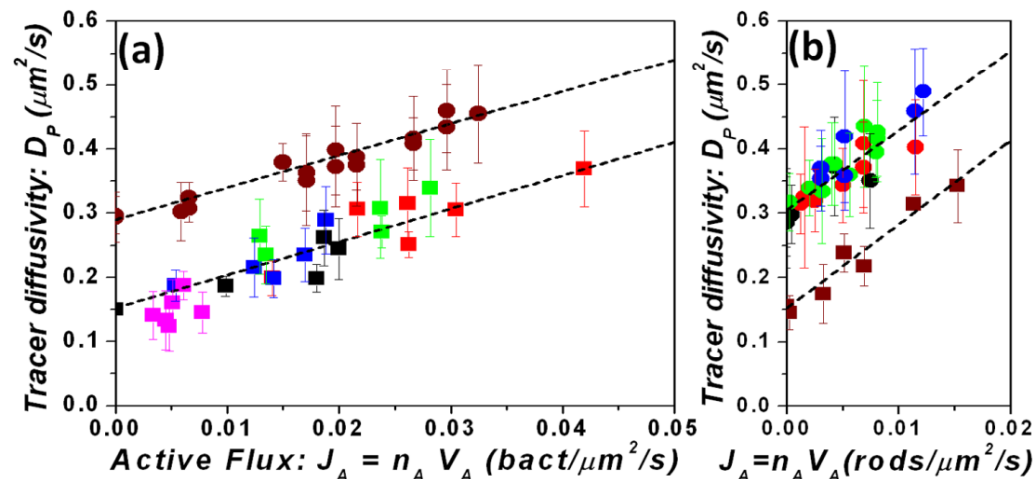
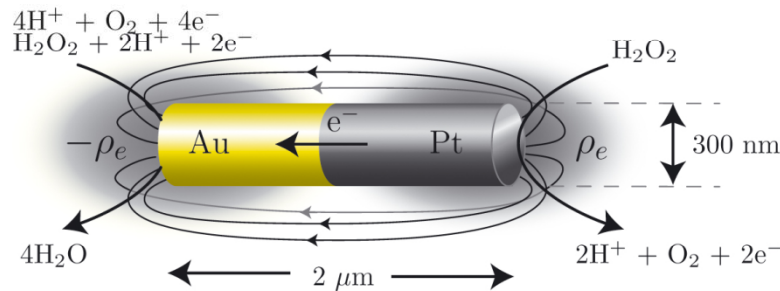
$R = 6.03 \text{ \AA}$



$R = 4.94 \text{ \AA}$



Living Bacteria vs. Inanimate Micromotors: Similar Interaction Physics!

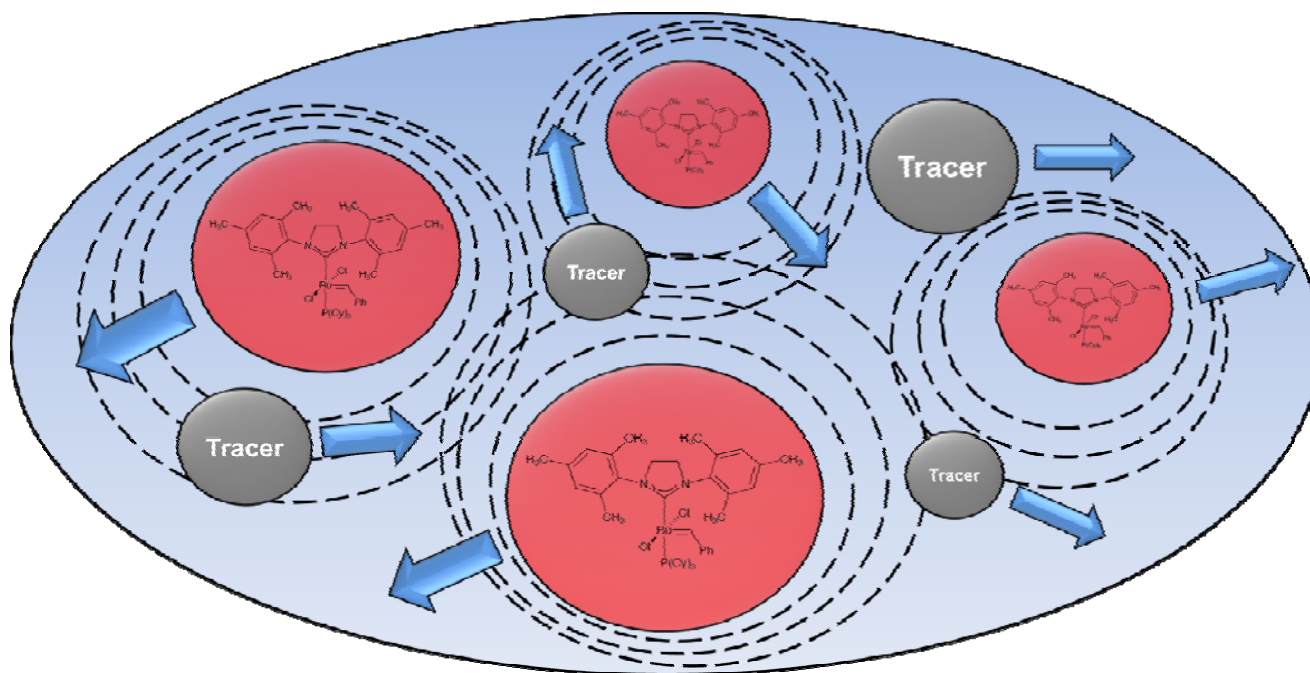


Bacteria and nanorod motors have similar sizes, speeds, and fractions of active swimmers.

Momentum transfer from active swimmers to tracer particles shows identical scaling for bacteria and nanorods, meaning that the physics of motor-particle interactions is relatively insensitive to propulsion mechanism.

Coupling of Motion in Solution

- Can individual catalyst molecules influence the motion of the surrounding molecules?
- Phenomenon been observed for micron-scale bacteria, algae, and catalytic rods but *not* Å-scale molecular systems

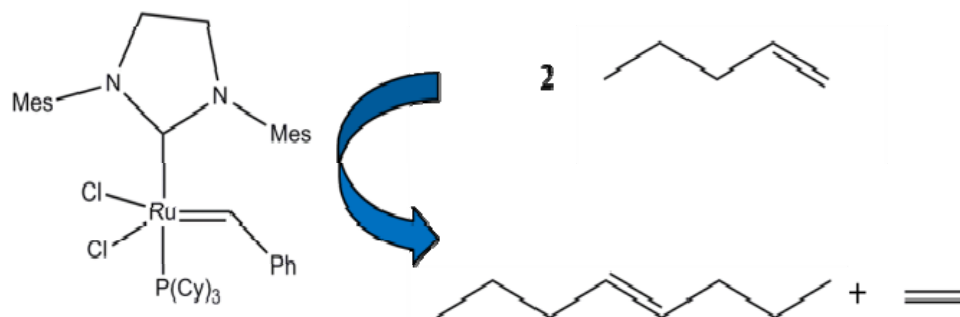


Hoyos and Mallouk *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 2011, 106, 048102.,
Gollub, *et al.*, *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci.* 2011, 108, 10391.

Even Smaller Organometallic Molecular Motor

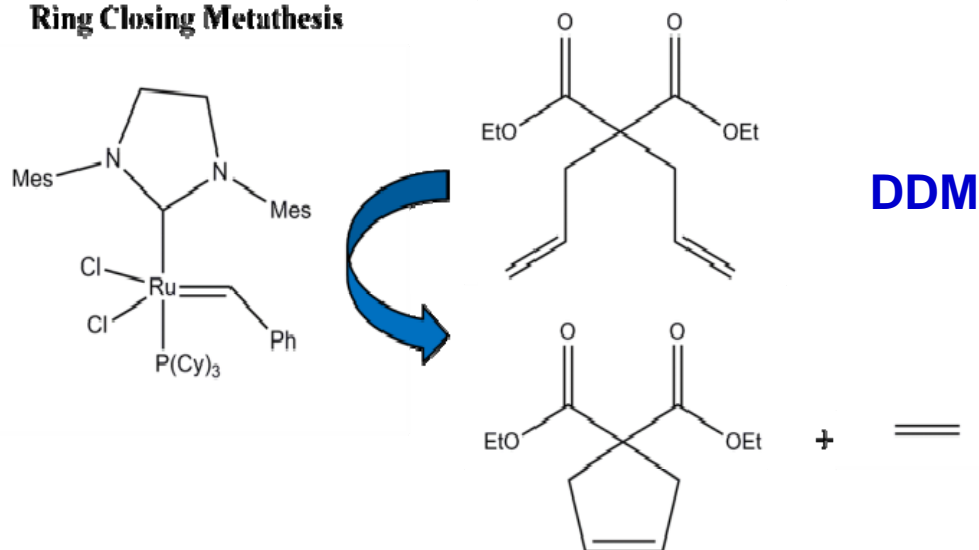
Cross Metathesis

Grubbs catalyst

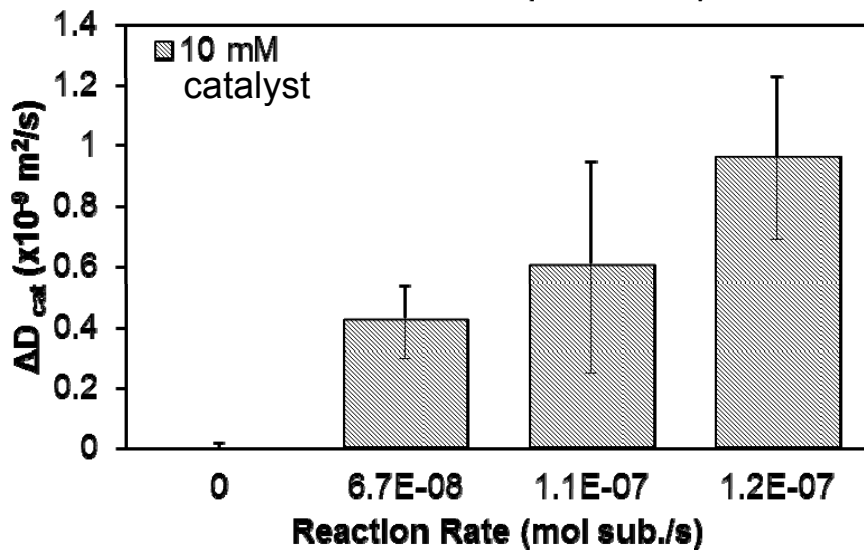
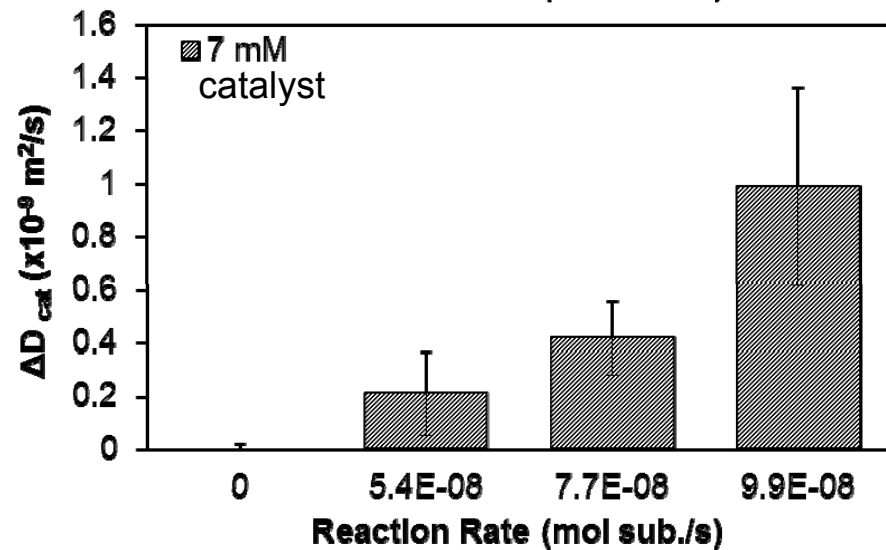
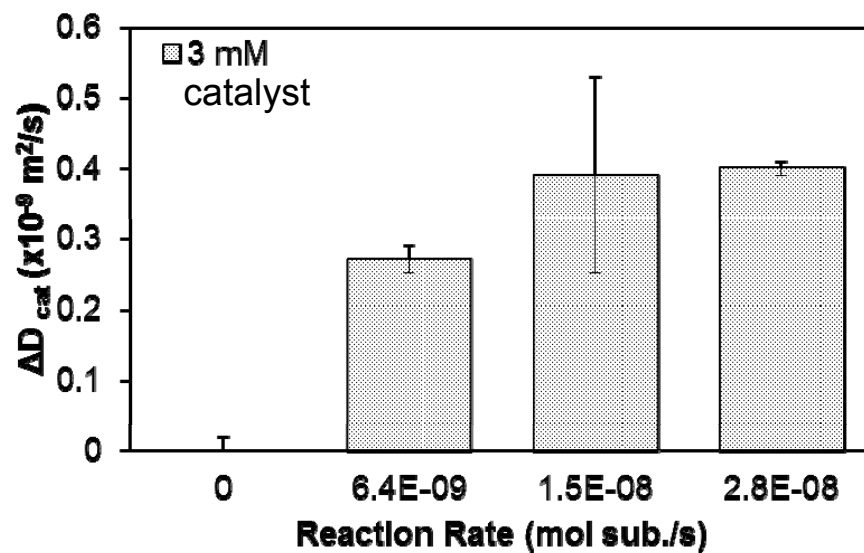
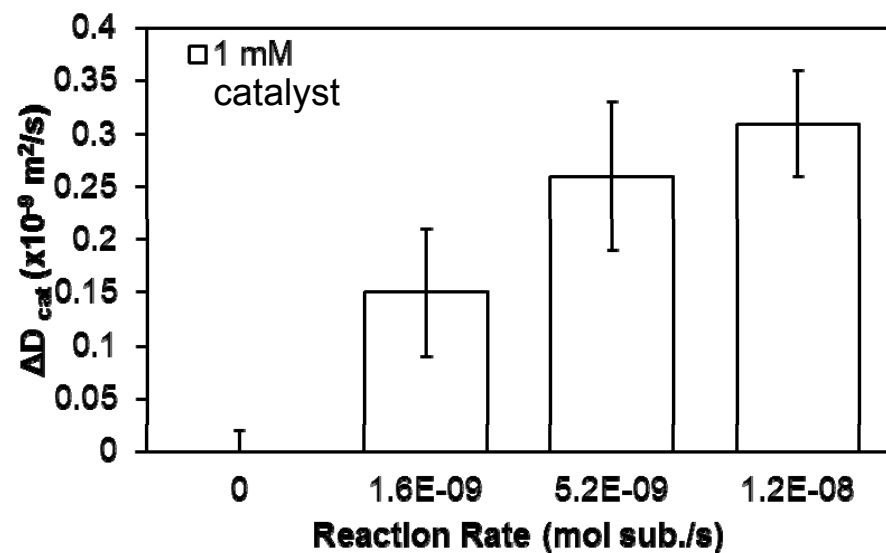


Ring Closing Metathesis

Grubbs catalyst

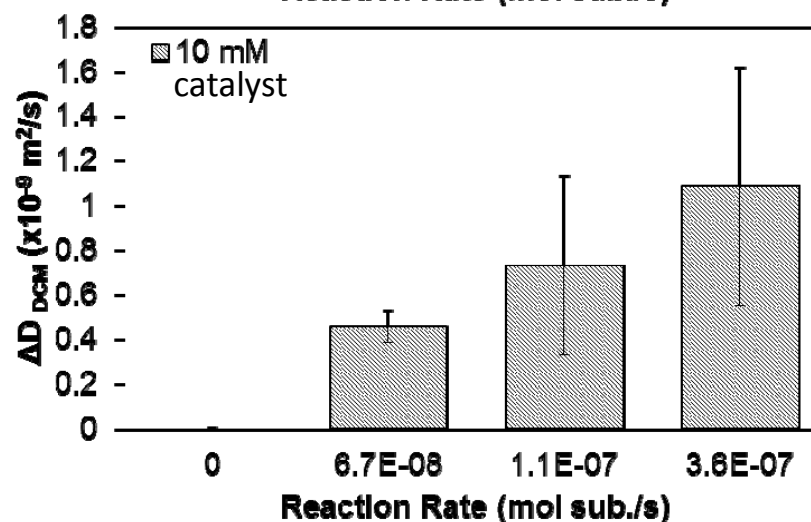
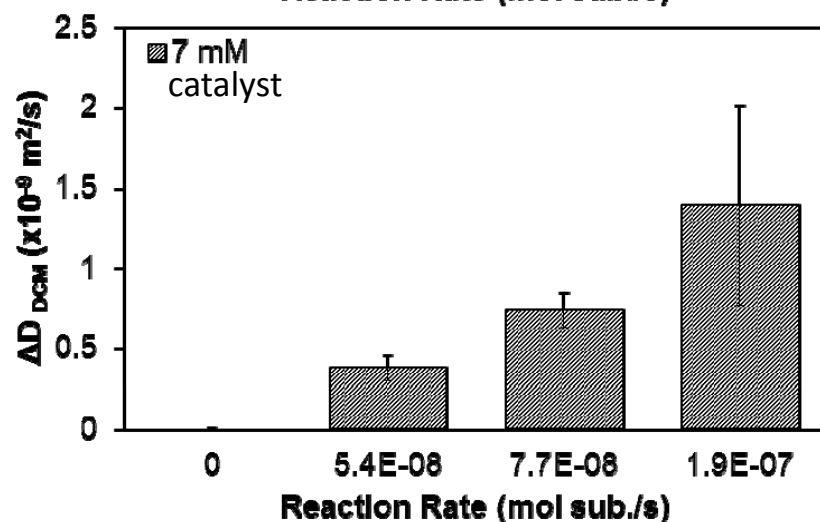
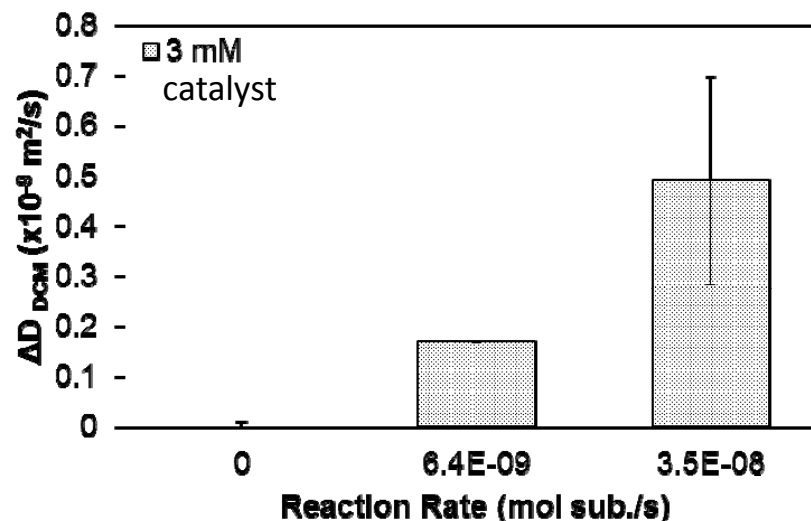
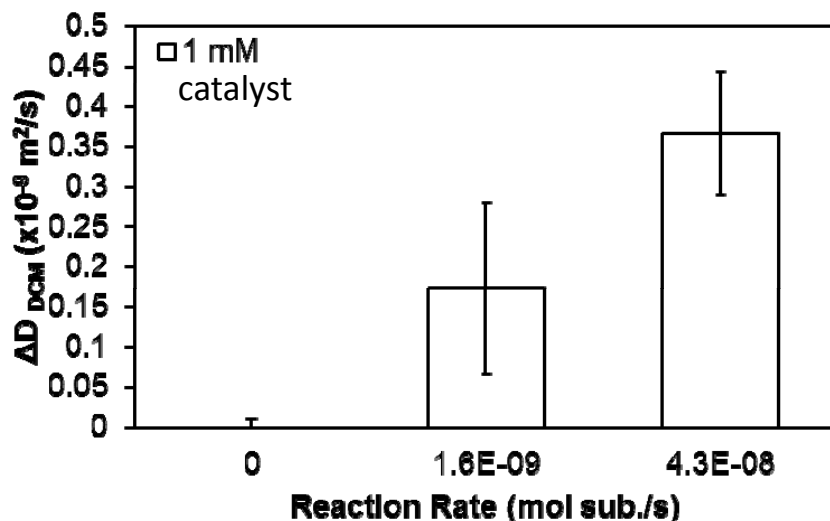


Catalyst: Dynamic Coupling



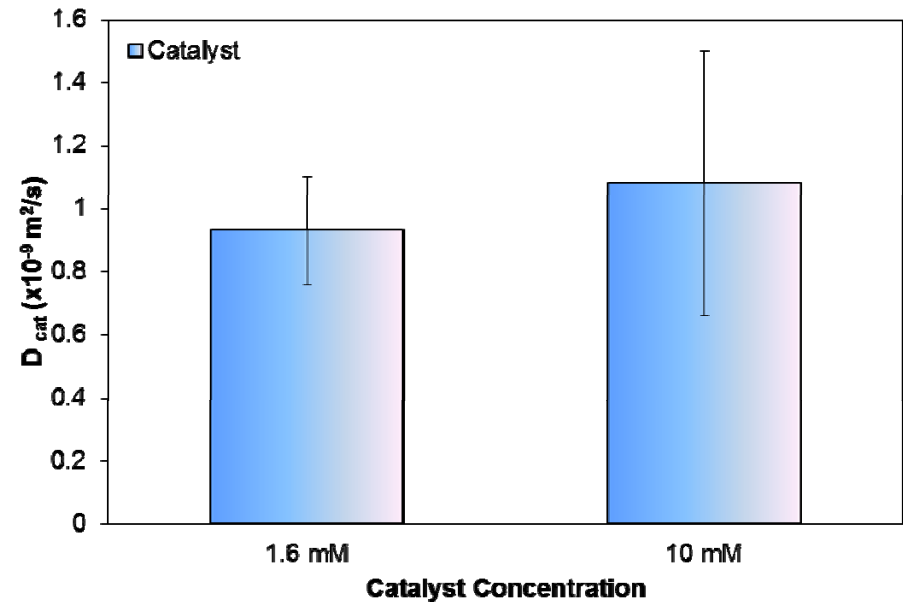
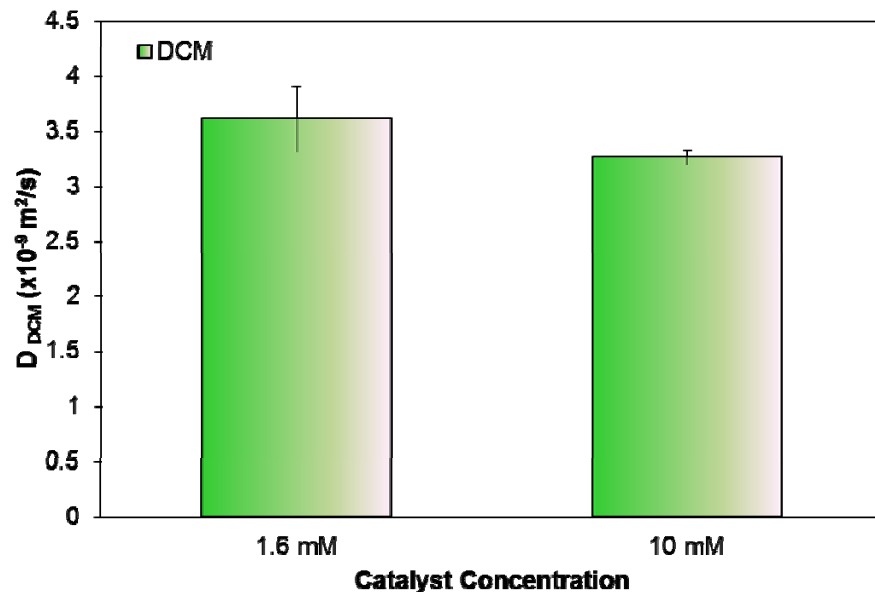
Dynamic Coupling with Spectator Molecules

Using a Spectator (DCM, CH_2Cl_2) to Probe the Environment



Distance vs. Rate Dependence

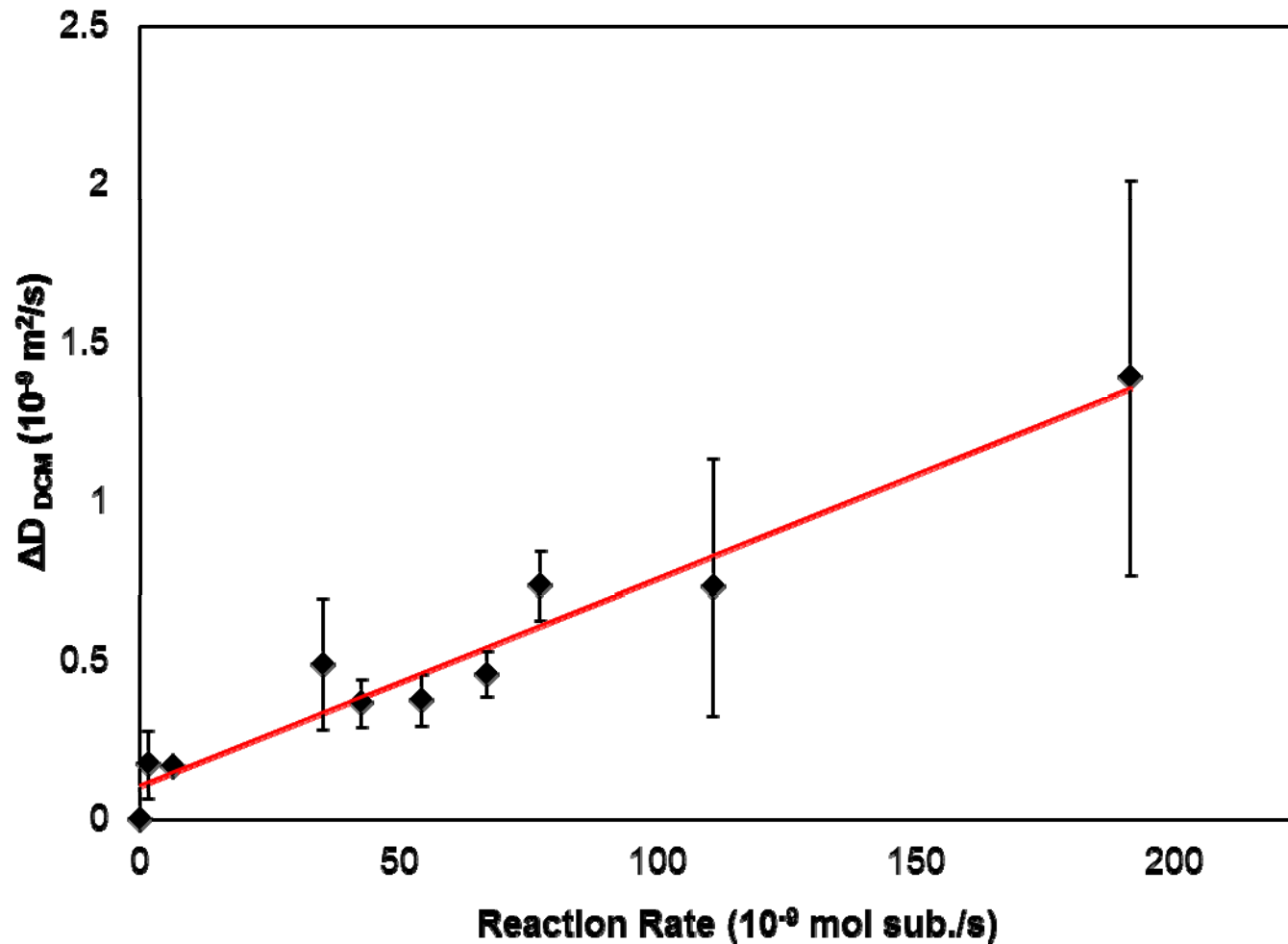
- Easy to control the rate of perturbations (reactions)
- Look at importance of distance by controlling the rate and concentration
- This is not easily done in previously explored systems



- Both the catalyst (**top**) and spectator (**left**) show no significant difference in diffusion at a constant *total* reaction rate and different catalyst concentration
- Since the distance between catalyst molecules is proportional to the concentration, there is *no* dependence on distance, only on *total* reaction rate

Dependence on Reaction Rate

Similar linear dependence of the diffusion of the spectator on the rate of perturbations (reactions) as in the systems of Mallouk/Hoyos and Gollub!

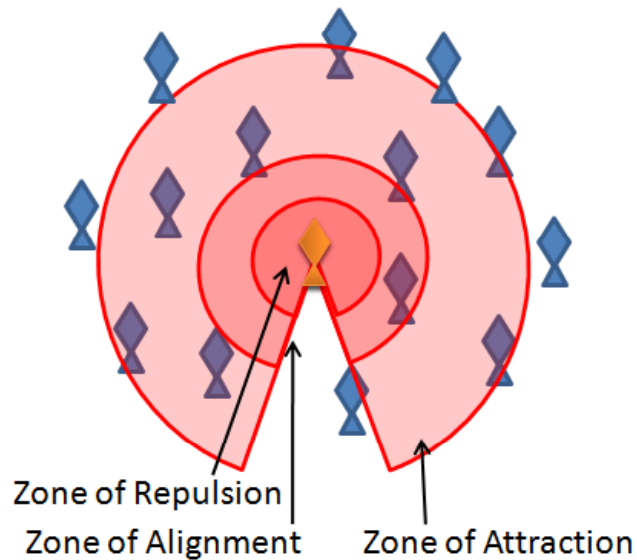


Where We Are and Where We Are Going:

- ❑ Abiotic nano/micro-objects can move autonomously by transducing chemical and photochemical energy into mechanical motion.
- ❑ With minimal information input in the form of chemical, or optical fields, these objects begin to display rich, emergent collective behavior.
- ❑ The Galilean inverse, analyte-triggered pumping, was also demonstrated using surface-anchored motors.
- ❑ Freed of the usual biological constraints, we now have the opportunity to probe the limits of self-organization in dynamic systems that operate far from equilibrium.

Organized Behavior

- ❑ **Directional Motion**: Sensing, Taxis, Levy walk
- ❑ **Communication**: Emergent collective behavior
- ❑ **Memory**: Individual (**internal**), Group (**external**)



Learning from
the Birds and the Bees!

Schooling Algorithm in Animals

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Wentao Duan

Wei Wang

Vinita Yadav

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Krishna dey (Post-doc)

Paul Lammert (Post-doc)

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Jeffrey Catchmark (Nanofab. Lab)

Darrell Velegol (Chem. Eng.)

Peter Butler (Bio-eng.)

Scott Phillips (Chem.)

\$\$

National Science Foundation

Air Force Office of Scientific Research

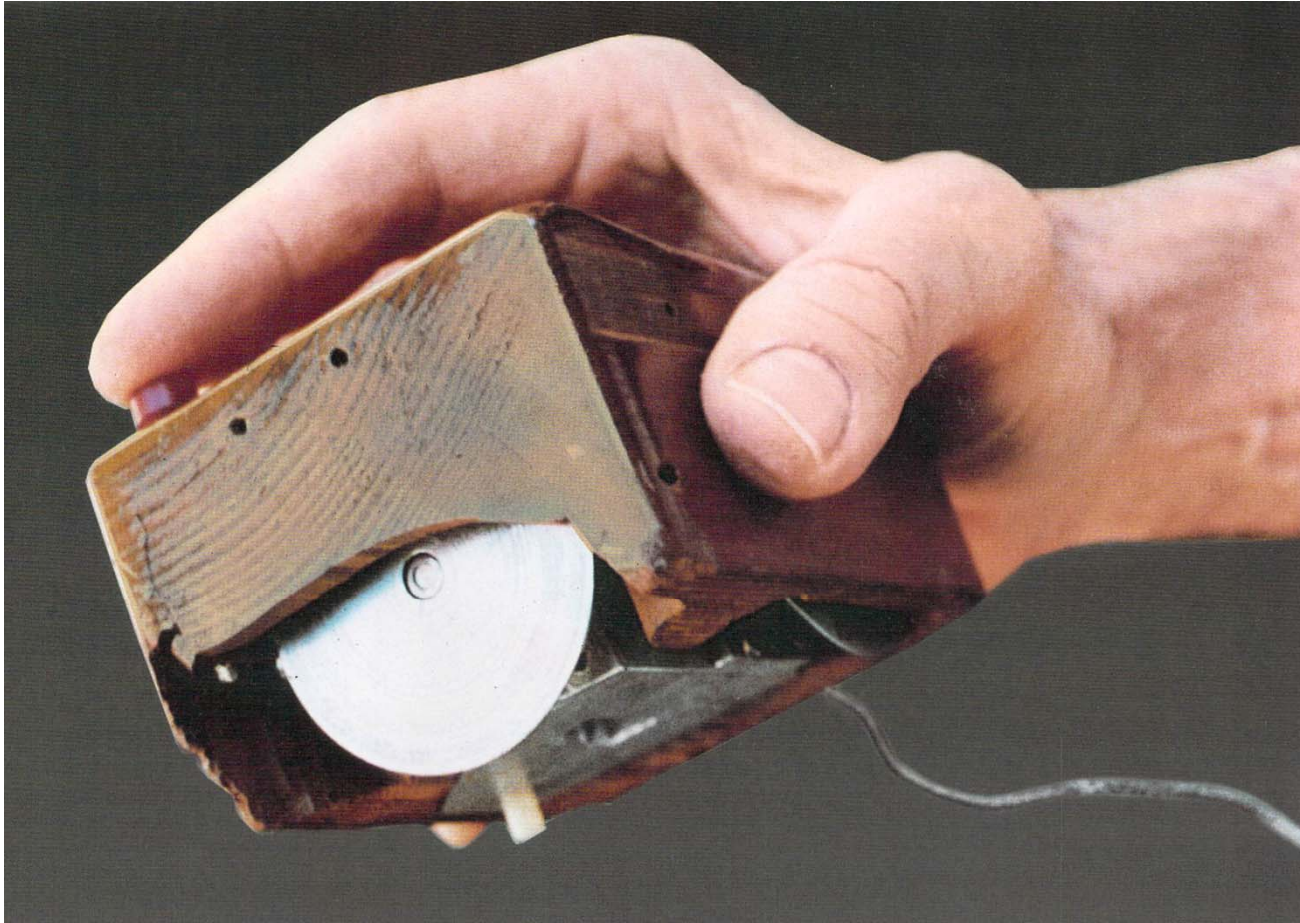
Advanced Energy Consortium



**Artists drawing of a nanoscale submarine
moving through a human capillary**

- taken from Audi Magazine, 10/03

First Mouse



**X-Y Position Indicator
Engelbart (1968)**