



# Nanomaterials Enabled Smart Systems

#### Pei Dong Assistant Professor Department of Mechanical Engineering George Mason University

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#### **Nanomaterials Enabled Smart Systems**

For public health 1.

**Overview** 

- 2. for water treatment
- 3. for energy devices







### Hazardous materials: solid, liquid & gas





#### **Indoor hazard**

- Formaldehyde (CH2O)
- Long-term health effects & cause cancer



#### **Biomarkers for specific diseases**

 Cyclohexane and benzene levels in breath: mycobacterium tuberculosis (M. tb)

https://www.airmasters.ca/2018/04/01/volatile-organic-compounds/ D. Kim, et. al, communications materials,5,41, 2024

### **Existing sensors**



Sensors



#### **Electrochemical sensors:**

- Advantages: quantification at ppm level with low-power, high resolution, better repeatability
- **Disadvantages:** cross-sensitivity, narrow working temperature, difficulties in determining baseline



M. Asri, et. al, IEEE Sensors Journal, 99, 1, 2021 C. Park et. al, ACS sensors, 3, 11, 2432,2018

(VOC)

## New approach: **Species-selective detection of VOC**

Methanol

Ethanol

Acetone

Formaldehyde

And their mixer

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1-butyl-1-methylpyrrolidinium bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)imide [C4mpy] [NTf2] dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) X. Huang, et. al, P. Dong\*, ACS Sensor, 2023, 8, 3389-3399



## Machine learning approach: Linear discriminant analysis (LDA)





### Smart system for Hazard Detection & Disinfection





**Sensors Regulated System** 

#### **Public Safety and Health**

### **Current solution for disinfectant**

- Common disinfectant: ethanol, Isopropanol, hydrogen peroxide, phenol, lactic acid, chlorine dioxide, etc.
- Cost: \$0.12 \$0.75 per sq. ft. or \$85 \$125 per hour
- **Challenge:** evaporation and degradation, Cumulative consumption and labor work
- Demand for new disinfection technology with features in high efficiency, low-cost and reusable





### **Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS)**



ROS



#### **Applications**

a. Self-cleaning membrane



#### c. Bacteria disinfection



Amit Joshi et al, *Nature Nanotechnology*, 2008, 3, 41–45 Chia-Ying Chen et al., *Environmental Science & Technology*, 2010, 44, 6674 – 6679 Cao et al., Chemical Engineering Journal, Volume 431, 2022, 134005



#### Carbon nanotubes (CNTs) & photodynamic effects

• Chirality, surface chemistry, electrical conductivity and surface charge, defects, dispersion



400

1.000

800

Wavelength (nm)

1.200

Ryosuke Fukuda et al., *Carbon*, 2020, 161, 718 – 725 Tu, X. et al., Nature, 460(7252), 250–253. Numerical simulation of band gaps for CNTs with different chirality. Collaborate with Parameswari Raju.

### **Generating ROS by photodynamic effects**



#### A new system

- Green approach (photon)
- Reusable or last long enough
- Inert environment

### Ionic Liquid (IL): [C4mpy][NTf2]

- 1-Butyl-1-methylpyrrolidinium bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)imide
- Store 9 hour\*



\*X. Huang, et. al, Materials Today Sustainability, 19, 2022, 100171 X. Huang et. al, Materials Today Energy, 32, 101242, 2023

### O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> calculation & *In-situ* monitor





	C <sub>o</sub> (mmol)	D <sub>0</sub> (10 <sup>-9</sup> m²/s)	α	i <sub>ss</sub> (nA)
Suspension	0.43	2.8	0.36	2.897
IL	1.33	0.33	0.44	1.070

#### Cyclic voltammetry and chronoamperometry (CA): oxygen consumption



• In-situ monitoring for  $O_2^-$ 

 $R(t) = i_{po}(t)/i_{pr}(0)$  C(t) = [R(t)-R(0)]/R(0)

• Equations to calculate O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>%

peak current

 $i_p = (2.99 \times 10^5) \alpha^{0.5} A C_o D_o^{0.5} v^{0.5}$  (1)  $C_o D_o^{1/2} --- Eq 1 by CV$ 

$$i_{ss} = 4nFD_oC_or_o$$
 (2)  $C_oD_o --- Eq 2 by CA$ 

$$|E_{p} - E_{p/2}| = \frac{1.857RT}{\alpha F}$$
 (3)  $\alpha --- Eq 3 by CV$ 

 $R = i_{po} / i_{pr} = C_x D_x / C_o D_o$ 

 $\alpha$ : charge transfer coefficient; A: the surface area of the working electrode;  $C_o$ : the bulk concentration of  $O_2$ ;  $D_o$ : diffusion coefficient of  $O_2$ ; v: scan rate in V/s;  $E_p$ : the peak potential;  $E_{p/2}$ : the half-peak potential in V; R: the universal gas constant.  $C_x$ :  $[O_2^{-1}]$ ;  $D_x$ : the diffusion coefficient of  $O_2^{-1}$ .



### IL: No change -> Reusable, also supported by UV-vis Store superoxide for more than 65 hours



#### **SWCNTs**

In-situ characterization through Conductive-AFM (C-AFM)

- Resistance increase
- Voltage increase after irradiation

### Sustainable system for disinfection



#### Table 1

Conductive atomic force microscopy and kelvin probe force microscopy results for ultraviolet-treated and non-treated s-single-walled carbon nanotubes .

s-SWCNTs	C-AFM	KPFM	
	Conductivity (nA)	Potential (mV)	
UV-treated	$44.08 \pm 0.47$ 50 79 ± 1.00	$-33.15 \pm 1.51$	
non-treated	$30.79 \pm 1.00$	$-00.83 \pm 2.00$	



#### **Ongoing bacteria & virus tests**

Changes in s-SWCNTs' surface chemistry, including lower in sp2/sp3, decreased atomic content of p-p\*, and reduced surface functional groups.

### **Other efforts: Water-energy-food nexus**





Iman Nuwayhid, et. al, Front. Envion. Sci, 10, 2022, 879081

### Future work: Smart system by design





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### **Collaborators:**

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# Thank you!



pdong3@gmu.edu