

The International Workshop  
on DNA-based nanotechnology:  
Construction, mechanics, and electronics

National Centre for  
NanoScience & Technology

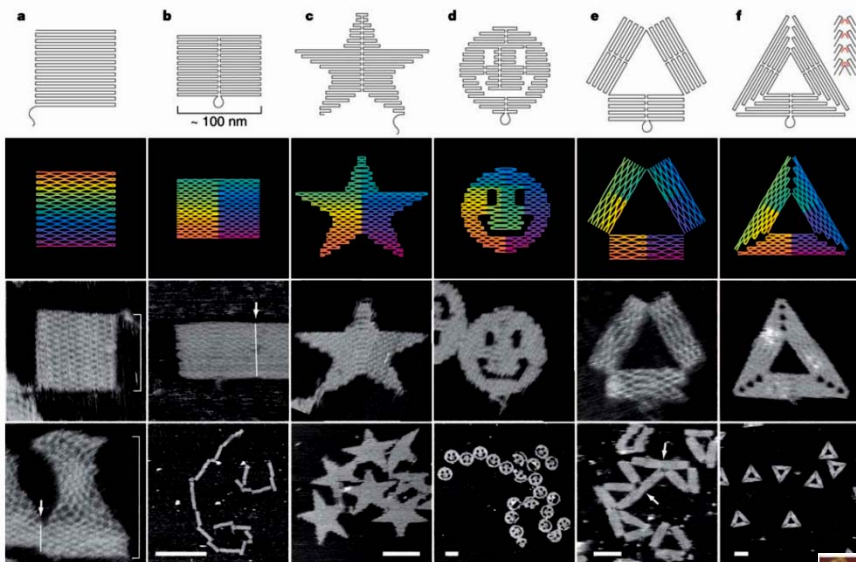


# DNA Nanodevices based on i-motif structures

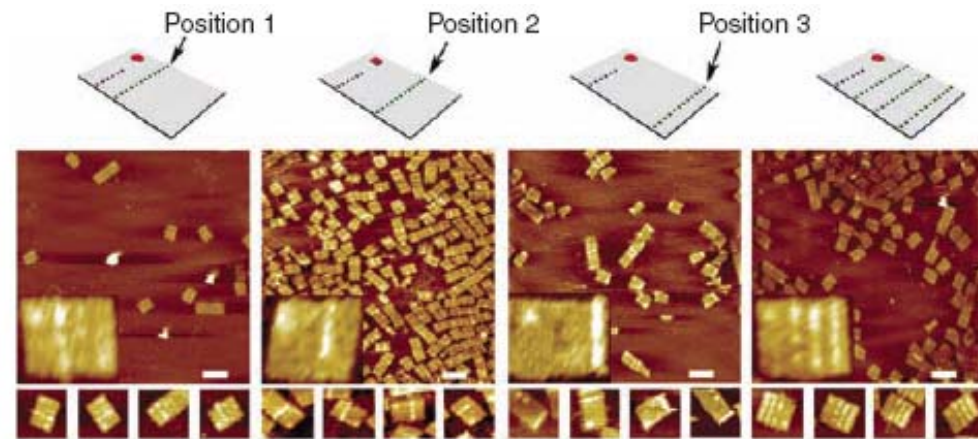
**Dongsheng Liu** Professor



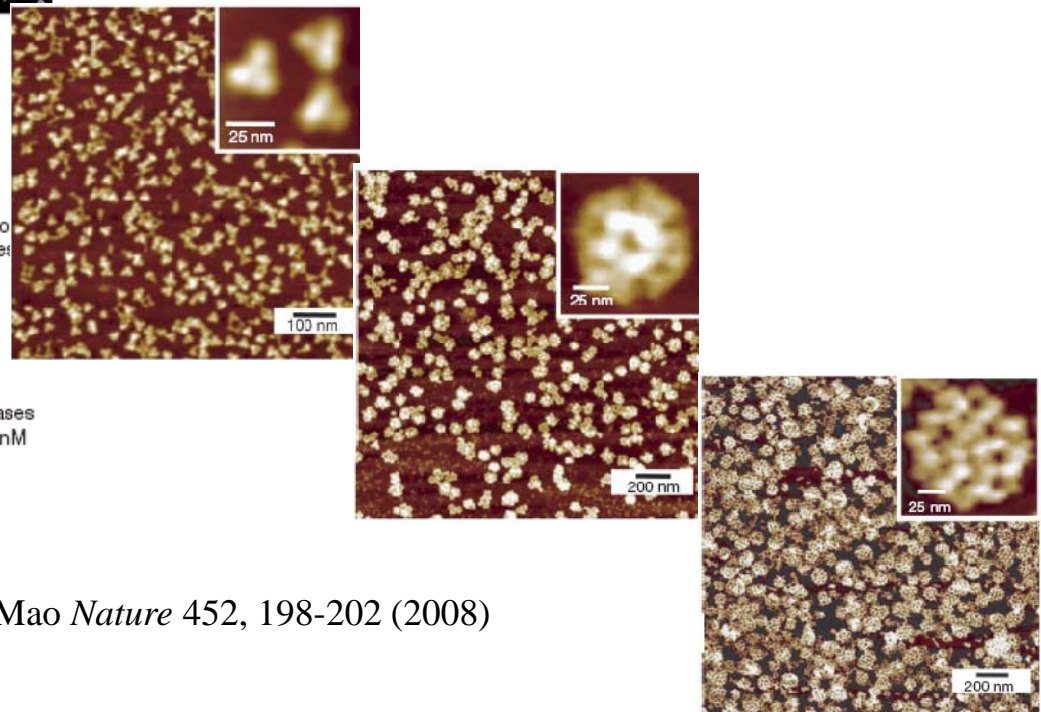
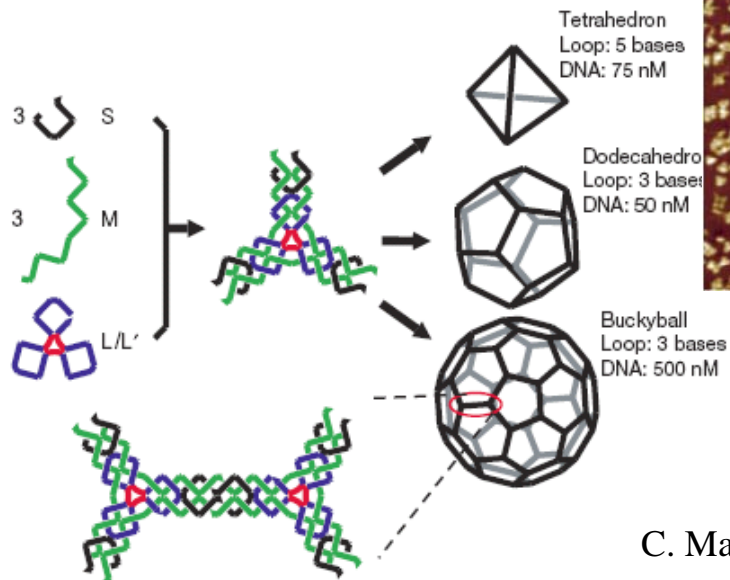
# DNA in a material world



P. Rothemund *Nature* 440, 297-302 (2006)

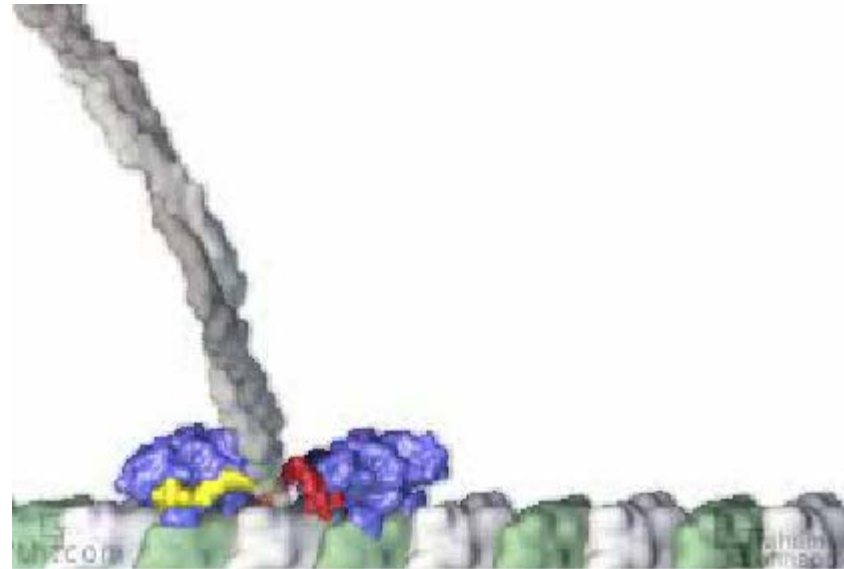
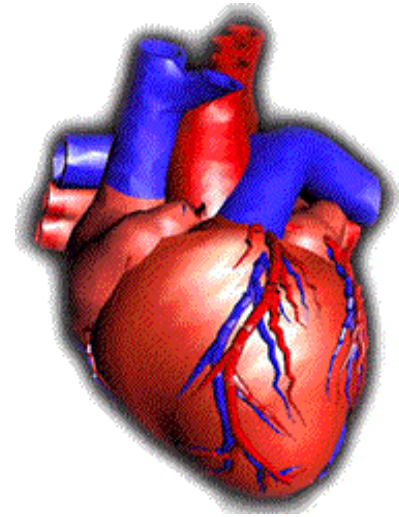


H. Yan et al. *Science* 319, 180-183 (2008)



C. Mao *Nature* 452, 198-202 (2008)

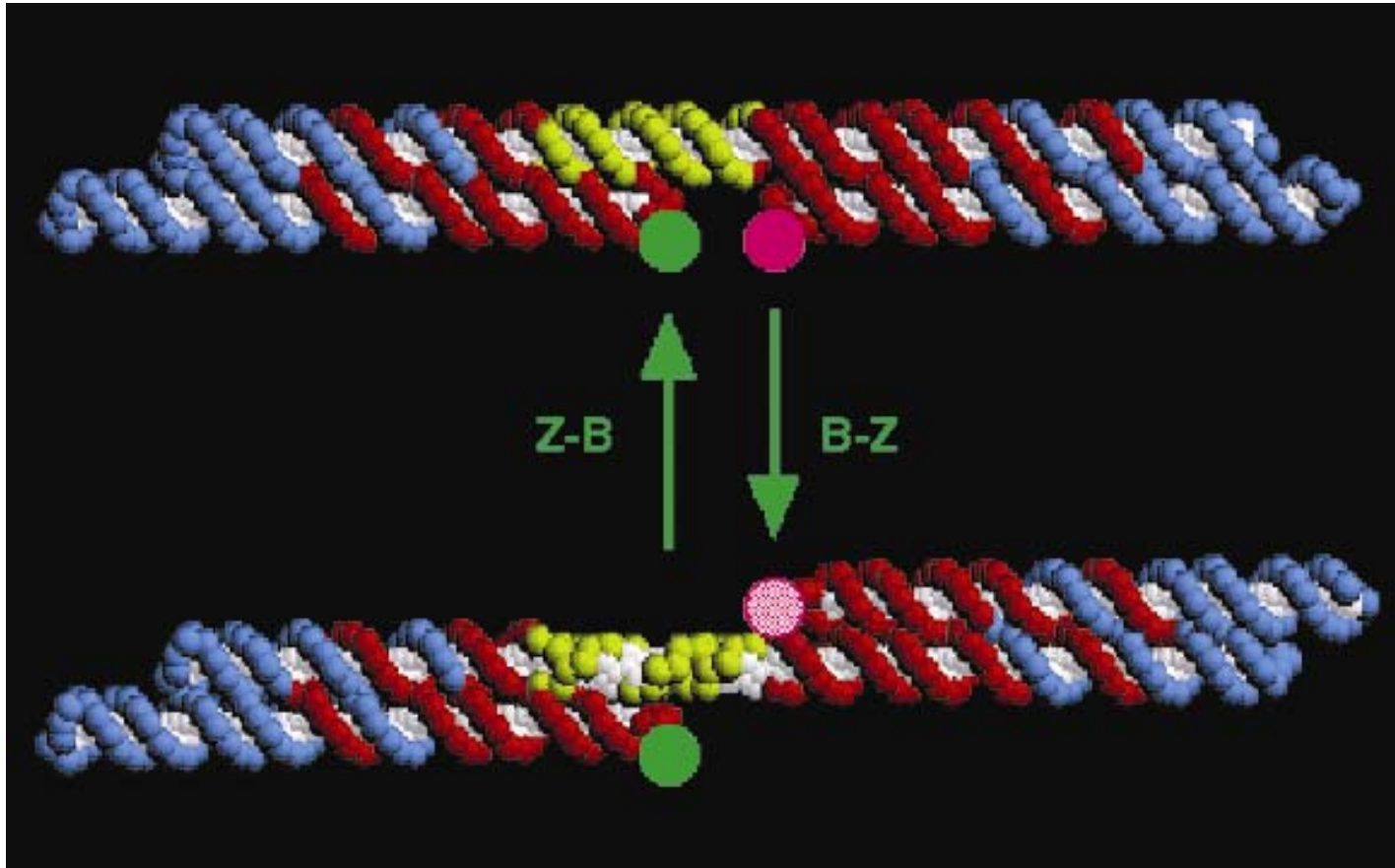
# Life is full of machine



# Challenges in DNA nanotechnology

- Can we make DNA machine?
- Can it do work ?
  - Driven method
  - Speed
  - Force output?
  - Reliability
- What will it be used for?

# An ion-triggered DNA rotary machine

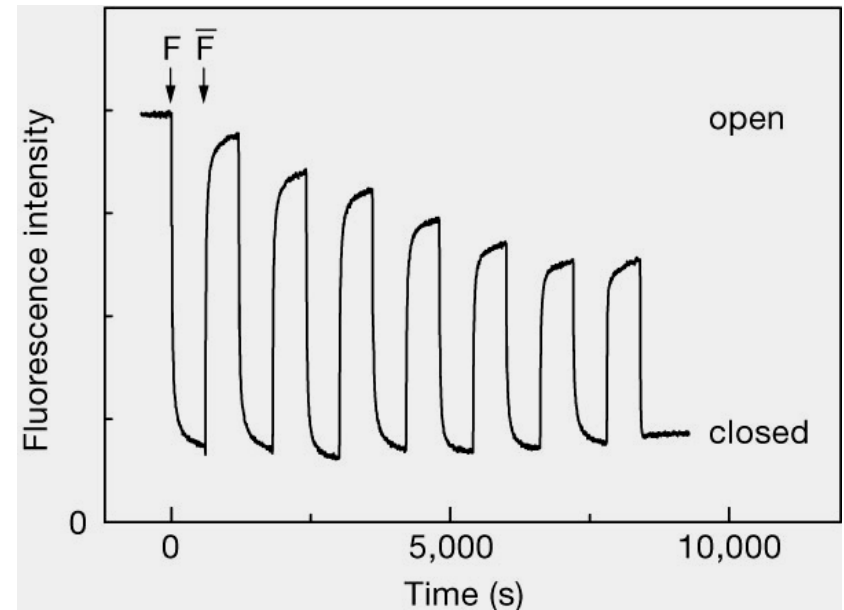
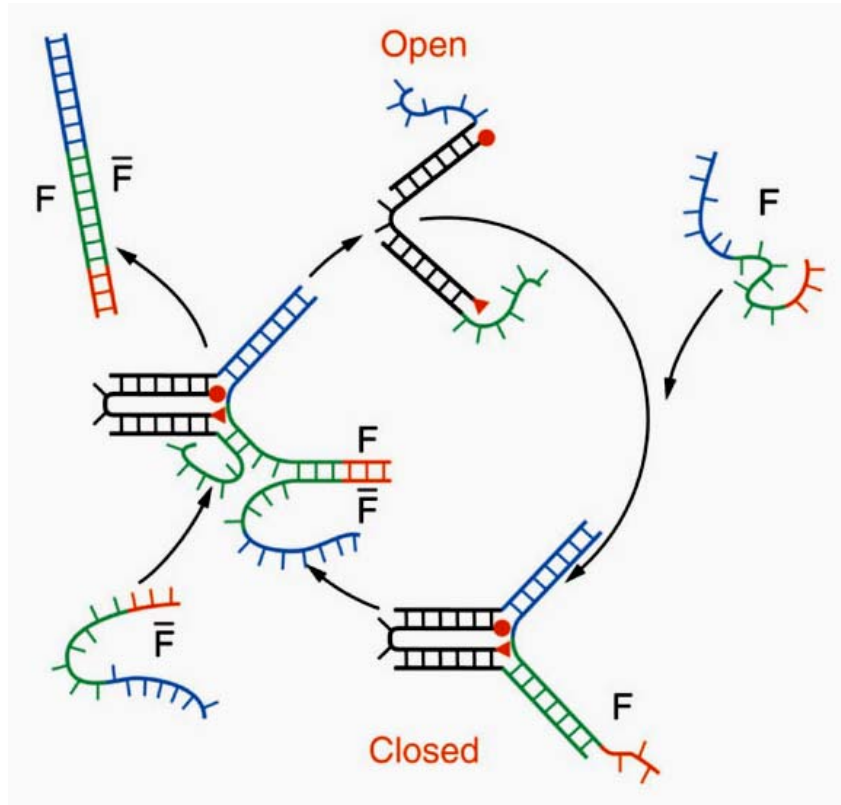


Driven by  $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6^{3+}$

C. D. Mao, W. Q. Sun, Z. Y. Shen and N. C. Seeman, *Nature*, 1999, 397, 144-146

# DNA-fuelled Molecular Machine Based on Duplex

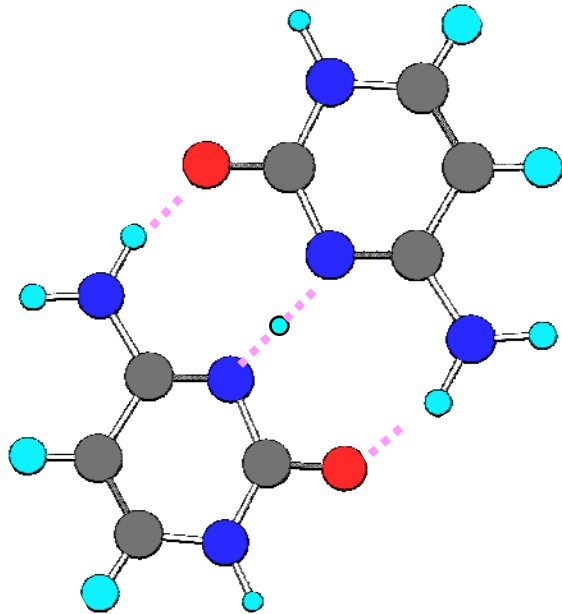
B. Yurke, A. Turberfield *et al.* *Nature* 406, 605 (2000)



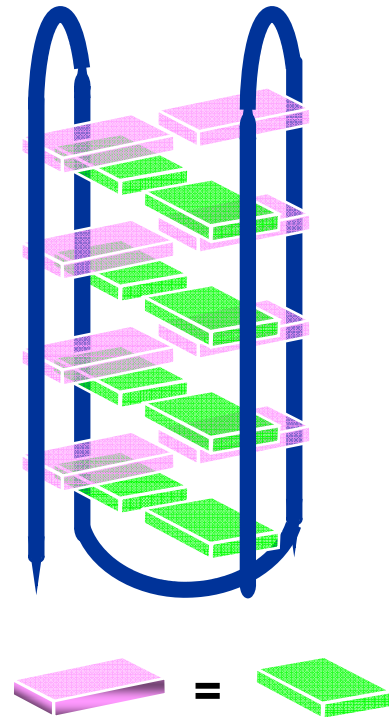
# pH sensitive DNA structure

$H^+ + OH^- = H_2O$  is an irreversible, rapid reaction

$H_2O$  and salt are compositions of biological buffers



pH < 6.3

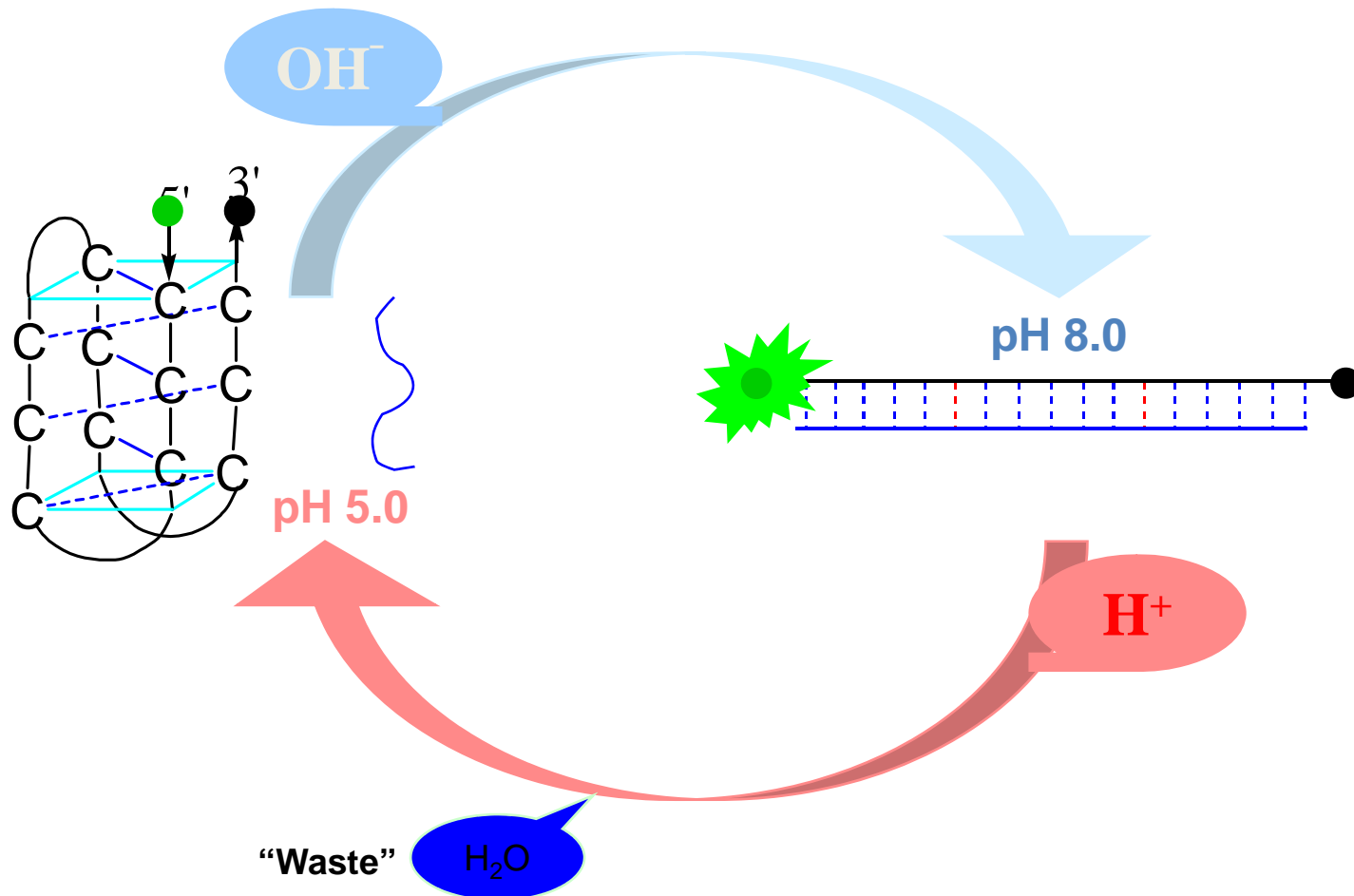


pH < 6.3

# DNA nanomotor driven by proton

D. Liu & S. Balasubramanian, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* 2003, 42(46), 5734

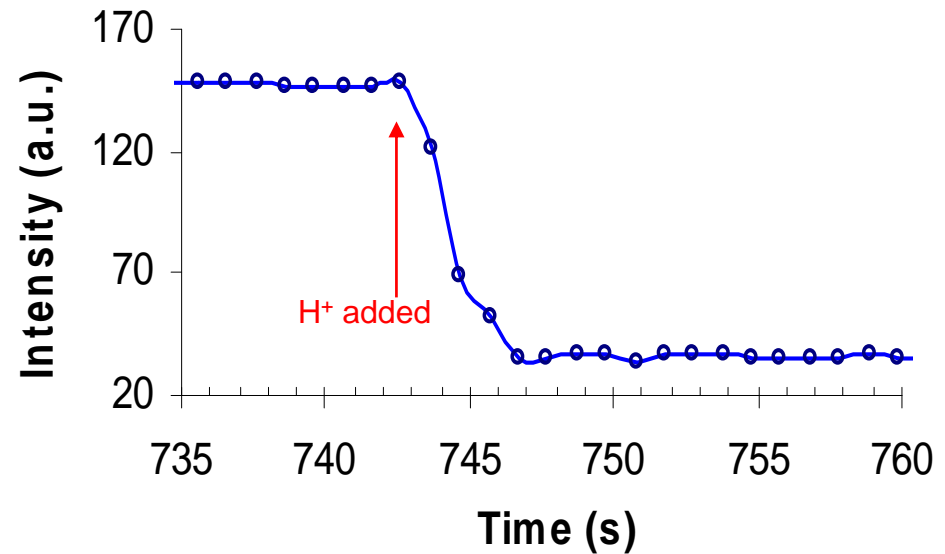
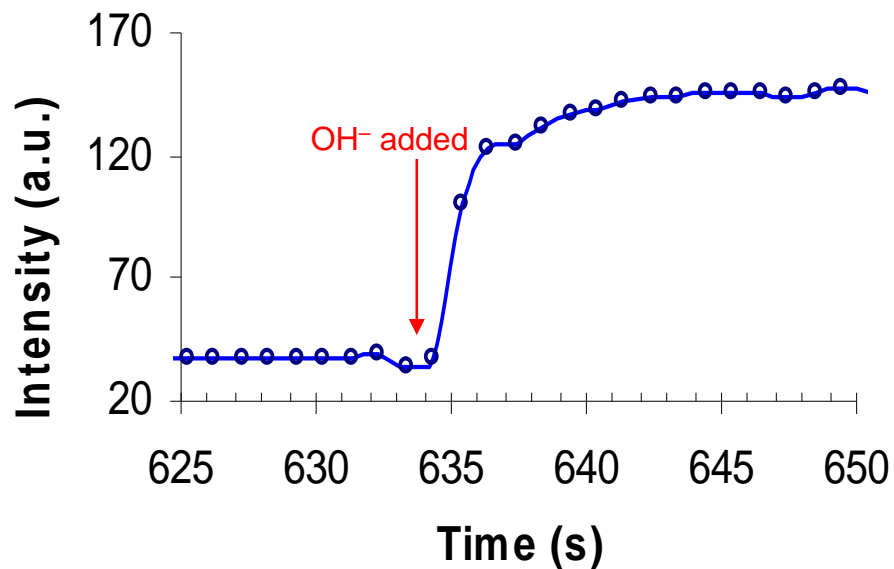
X: 5'      CCCTAAC**C**CTAAC**C**CTAACCC      3'  
Y: 3'      GATTG**T**GATTG**T**GATTG      5'



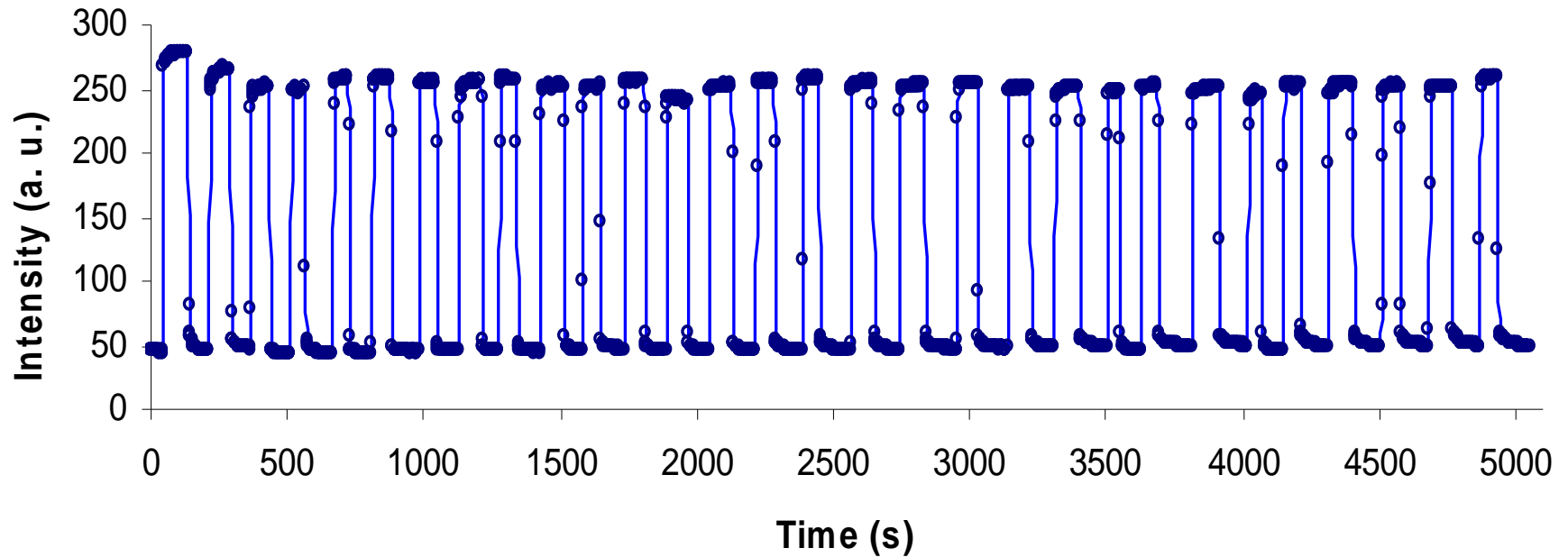


# How fast it is?

- Excitation was at 503 nm and emission monitored at 534 nm
- Sampling rate of 0.3 s
- both the opening and closing processes are each completed in  $\sim 5$  s



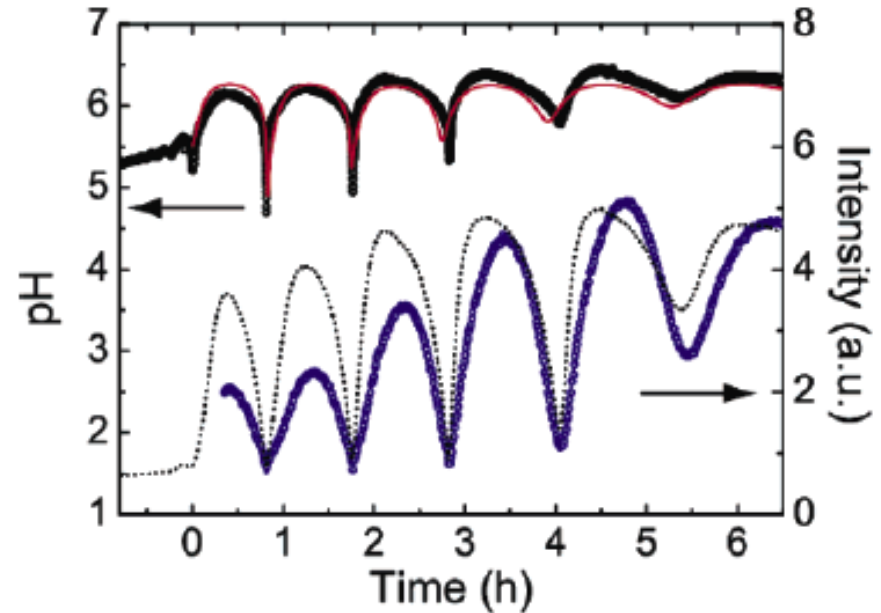
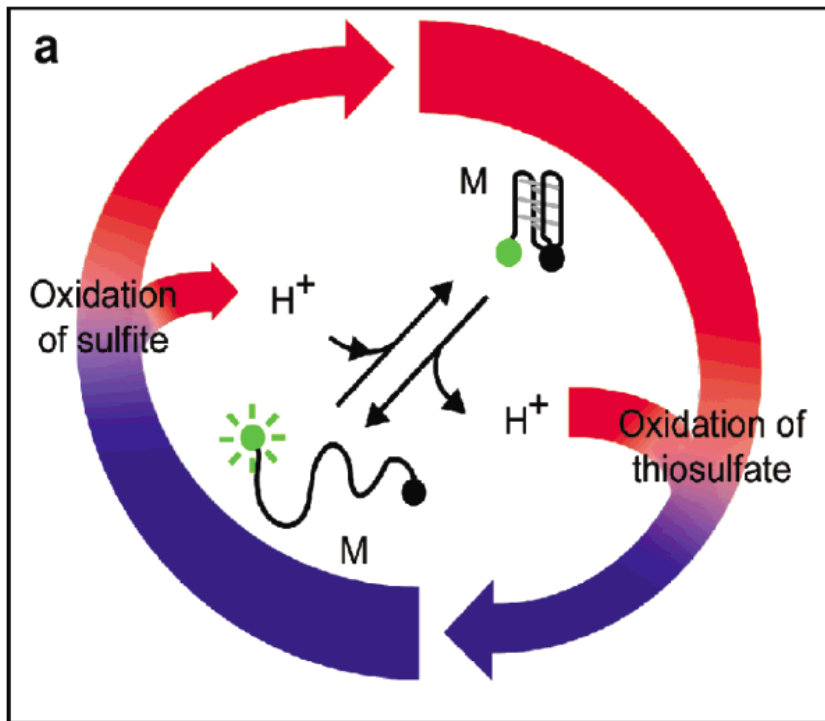
# Cycle the machine

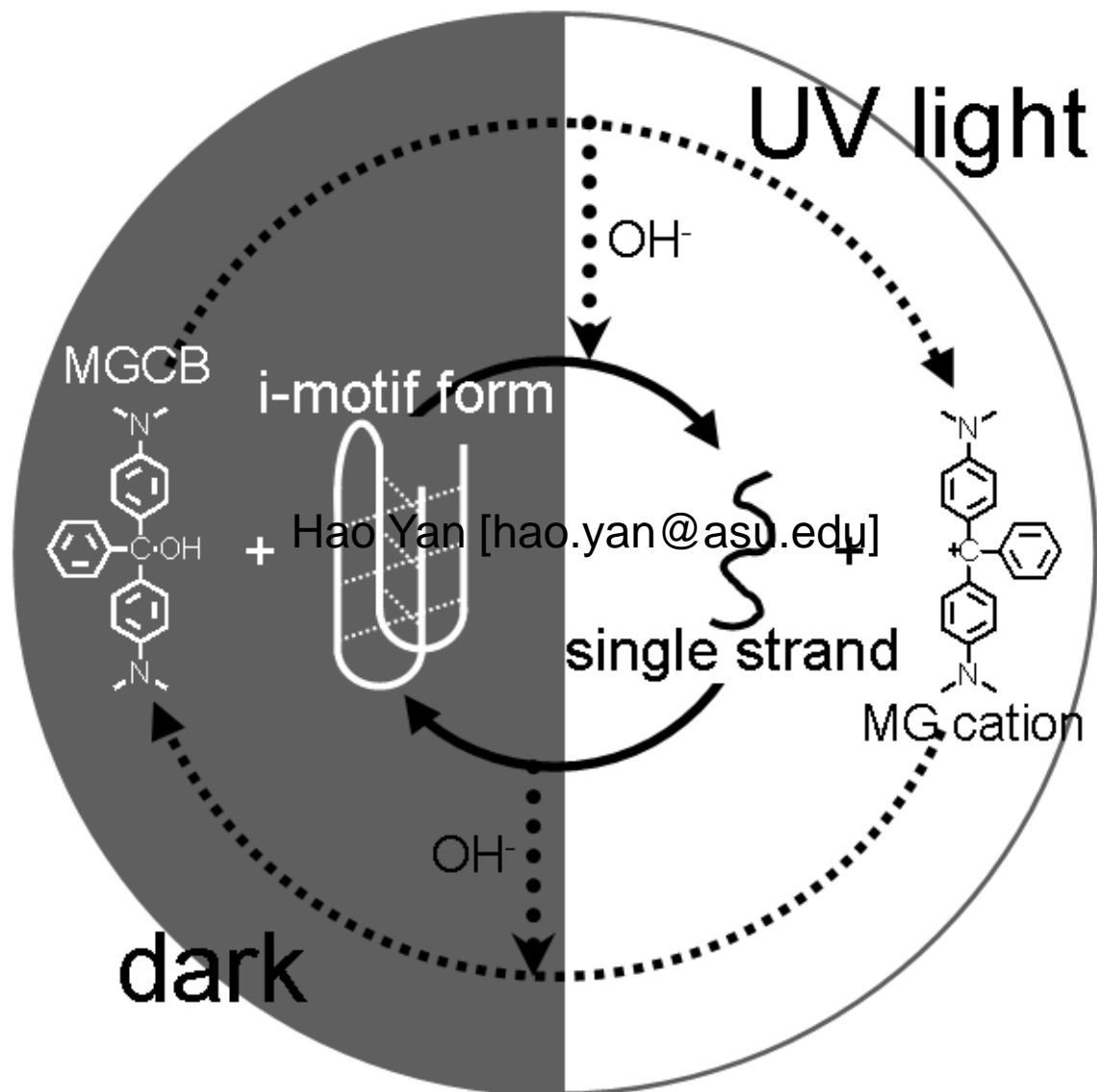


- Over 30 cycles there is negligible reduction in the amplitude of the system ( $206 \pm 7$  a.u. throughout)
- Response is very quick

# Switching the Conformation of a DNA Molecule with a Chemical Oscillator

Tim Liedl and Friedrich C. Simmel Nano Lett., Vol. 5, No. 10, 2005





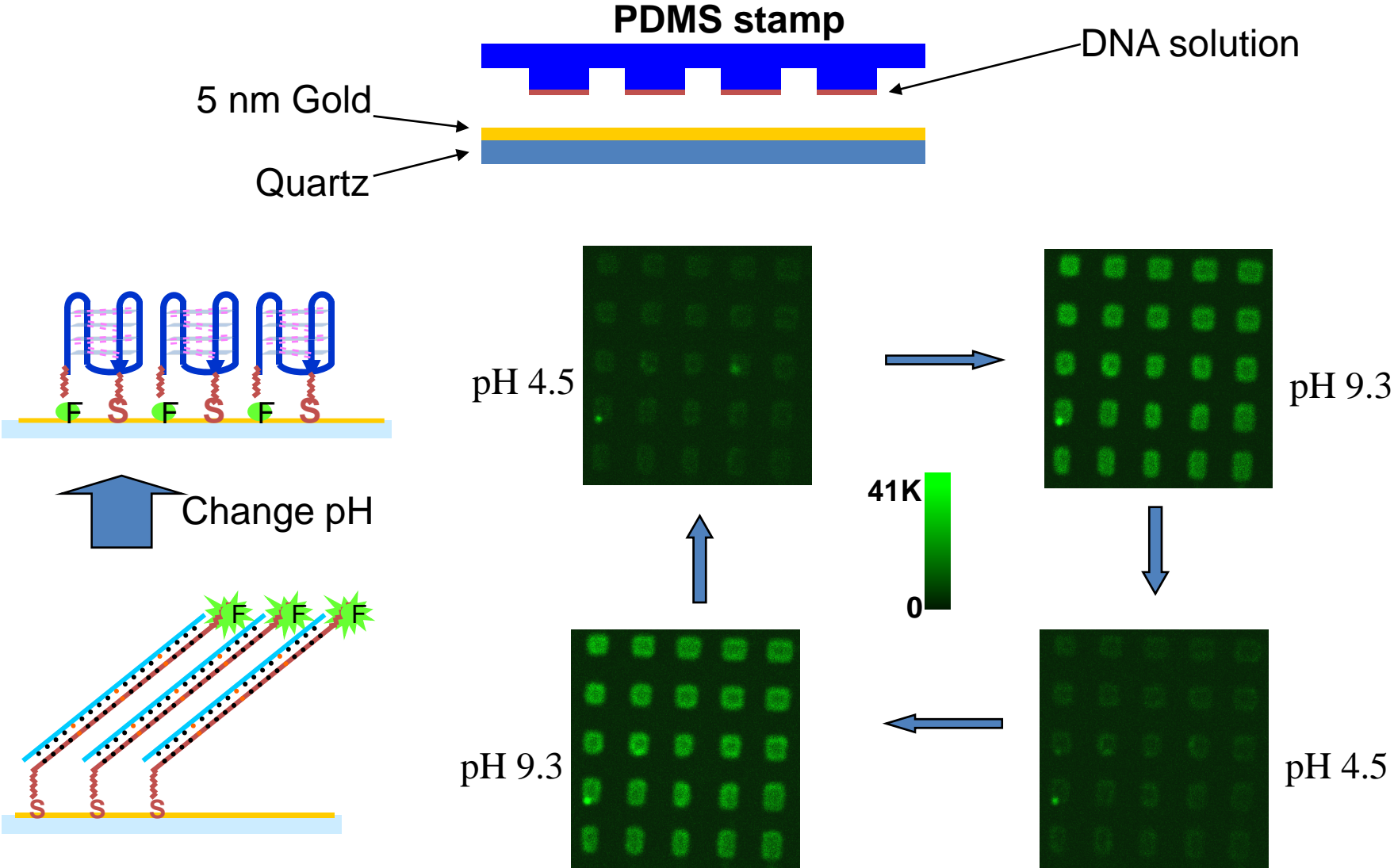
MGCB: malachite green carbinol base

cetyltrimethyl-ammonium bromide (CTAB)

# Challenges in DNA nanotechnology

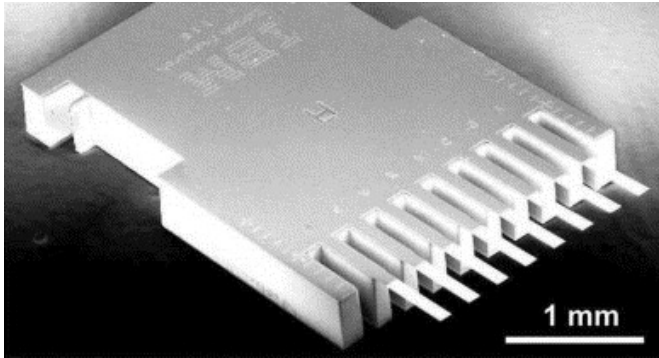
- ✓ Can we make DNA machine!
- ✓ The new driven method has the potential to do work
  - ✓ Speed: 1000 times rapid
  - ✓ Force output: pN
  - ✓ Reliability: Good
- Can it really do work?

# Run the motor at Solid/liquid interface JACS 2006, 2067-2071

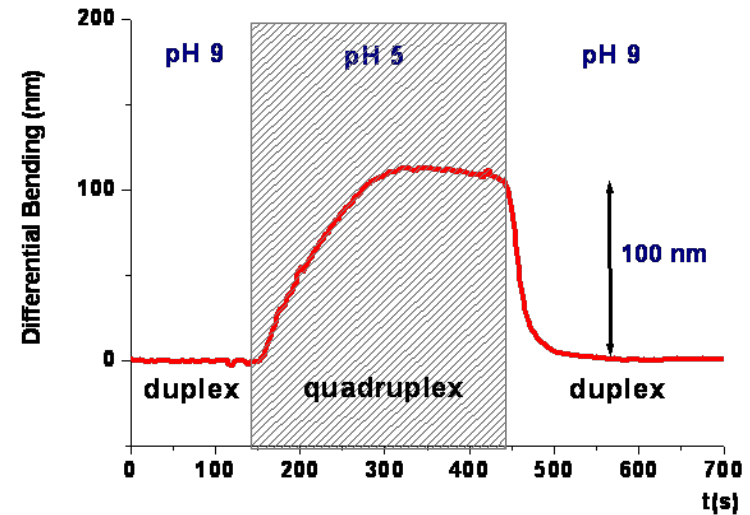
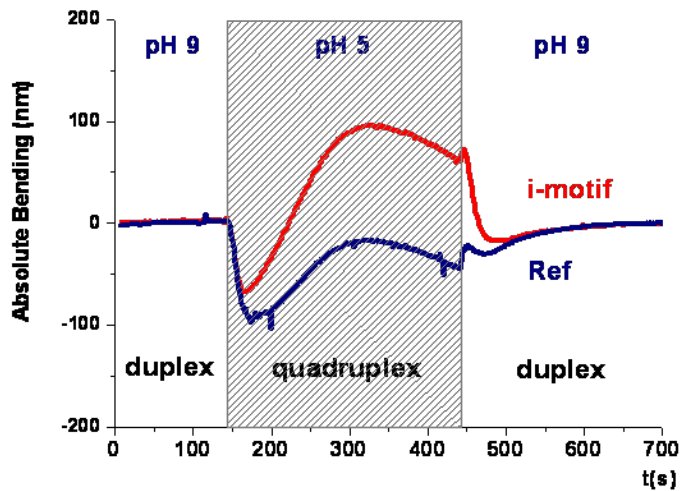
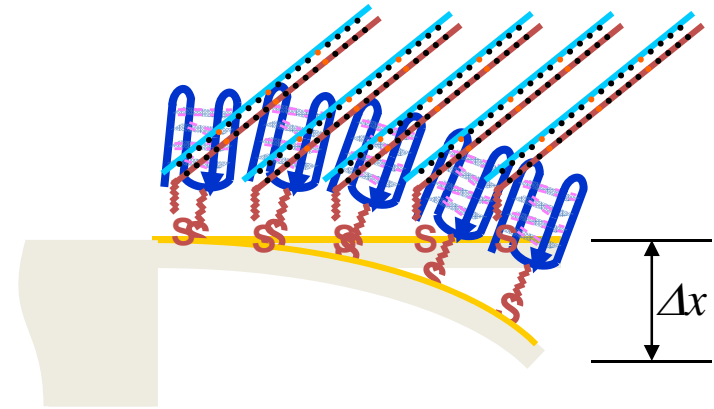


# Mechanical movement of microcantilever driven by DNA motor

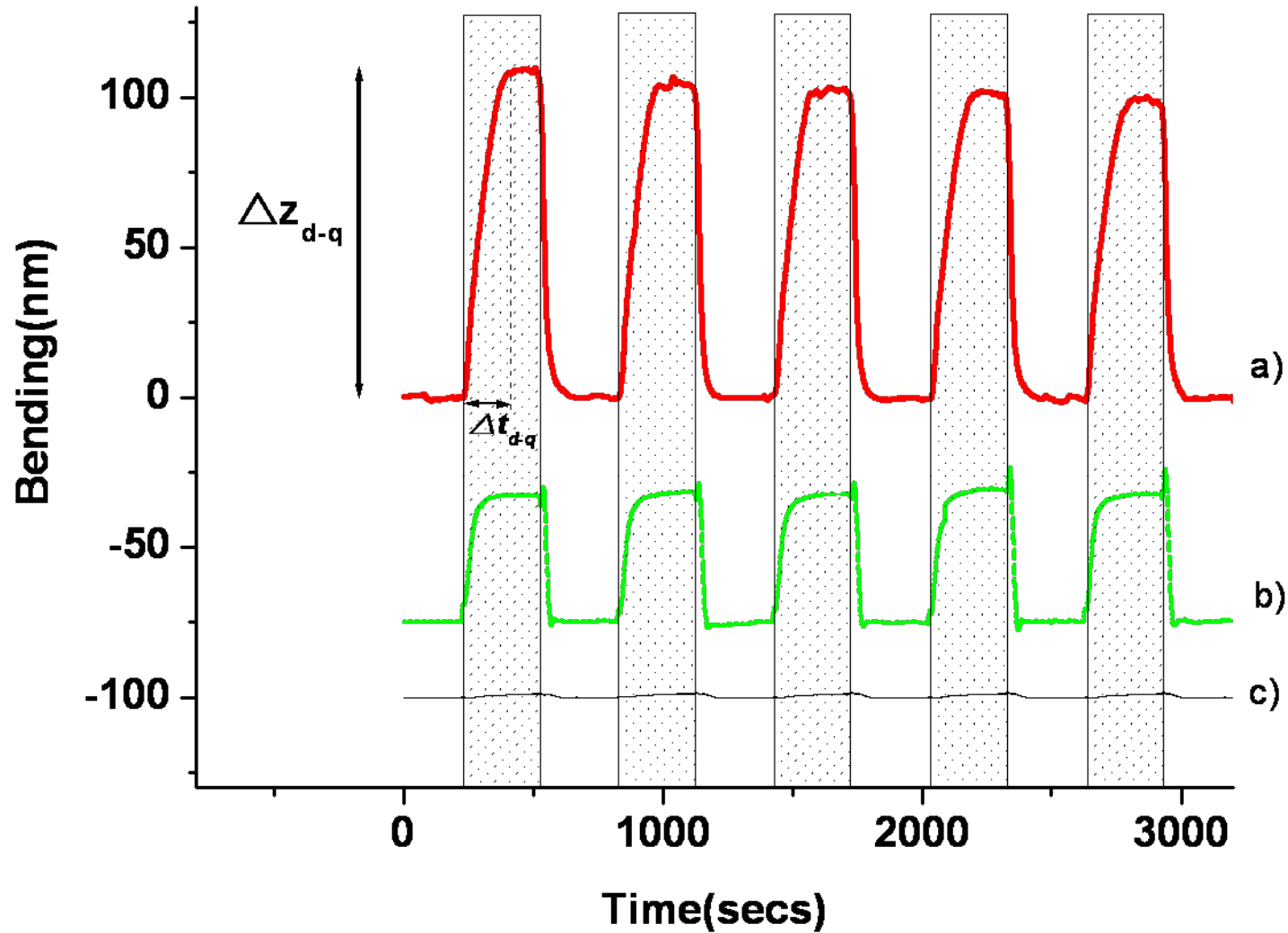
JACS 2005, 127(48): 17054-17060



Micro-cantilever array



# Mechanical movement of microcantilever driven by DNA motor



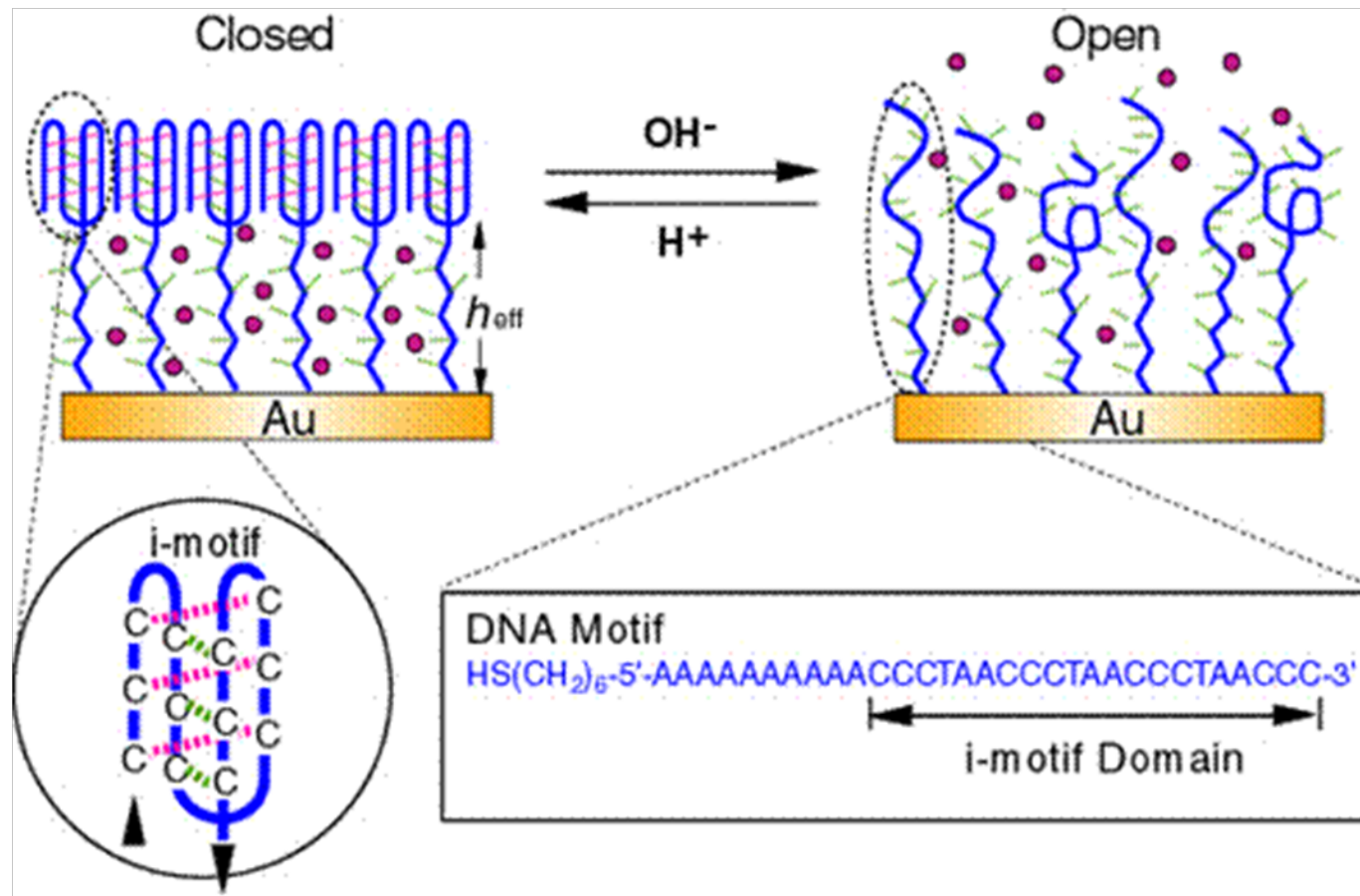


# Challenges in DNA nanotechnology

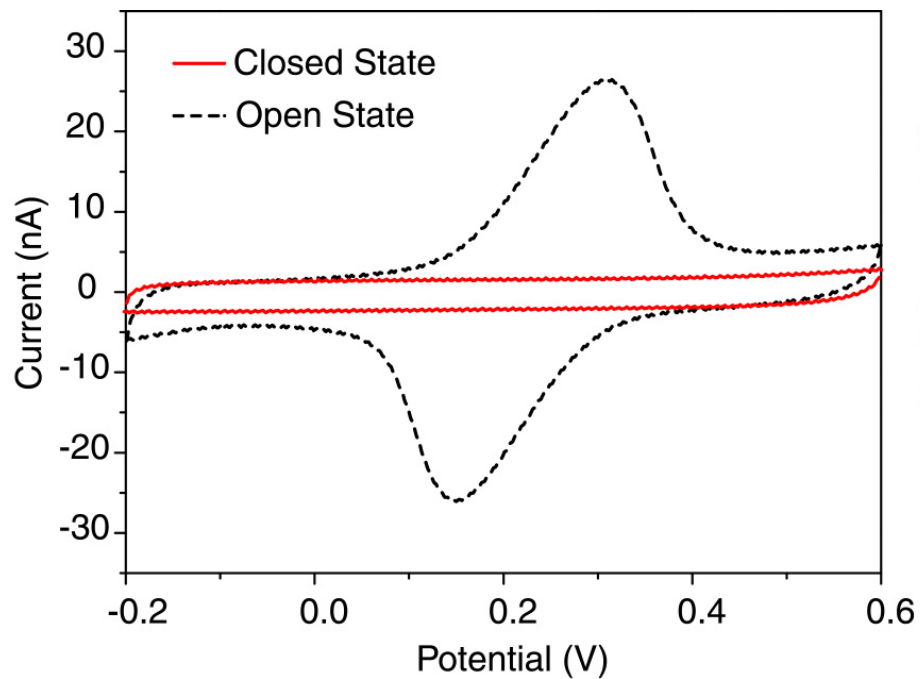
- ✓ Can we make DNA machine!
- ✓ Yes, it can do work!
- What will it be used for?

# DNA Nanocontainer

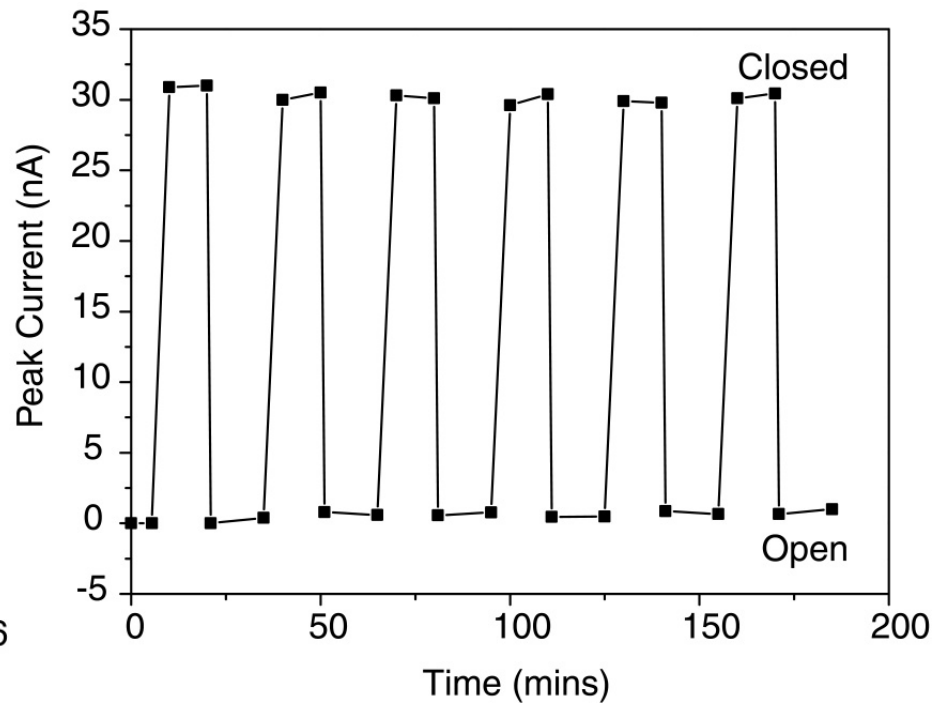
*Nucleic Acids Research* 2007; 35, e33



# Cycling the device



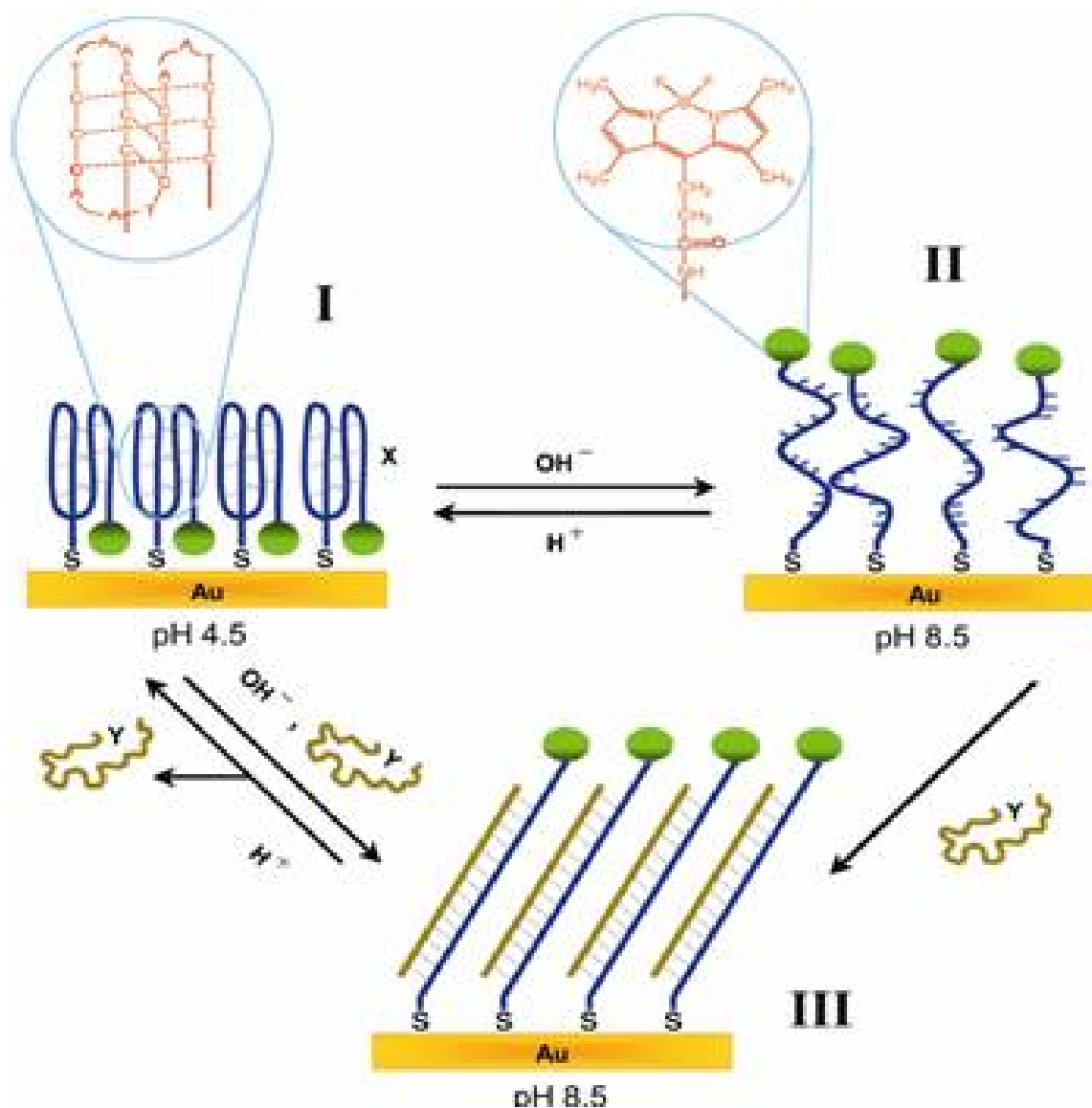
Cyclic voltammogram for the closed and open states of the device



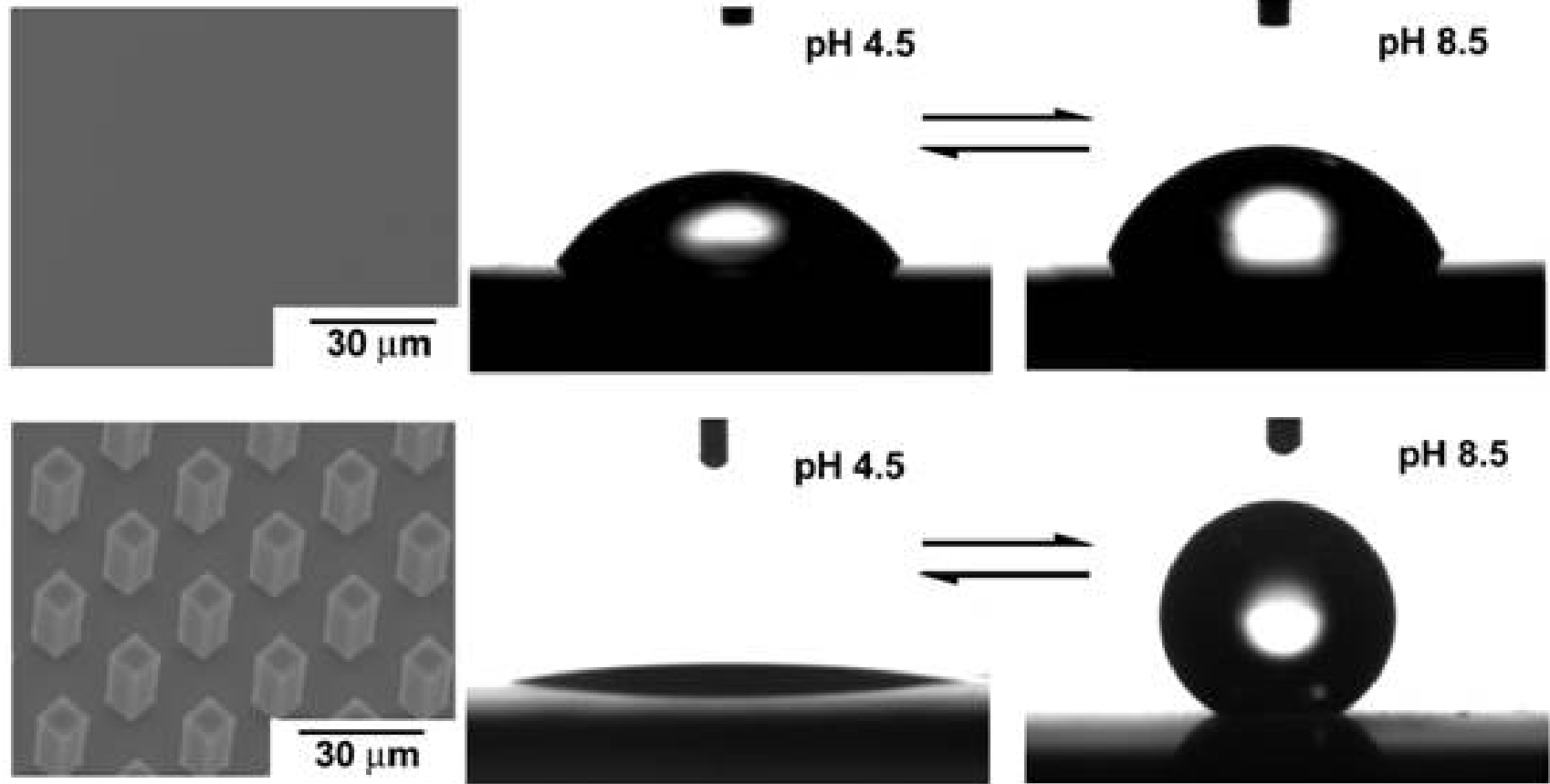
Re-use the device

# Smart surface based on DNA motor

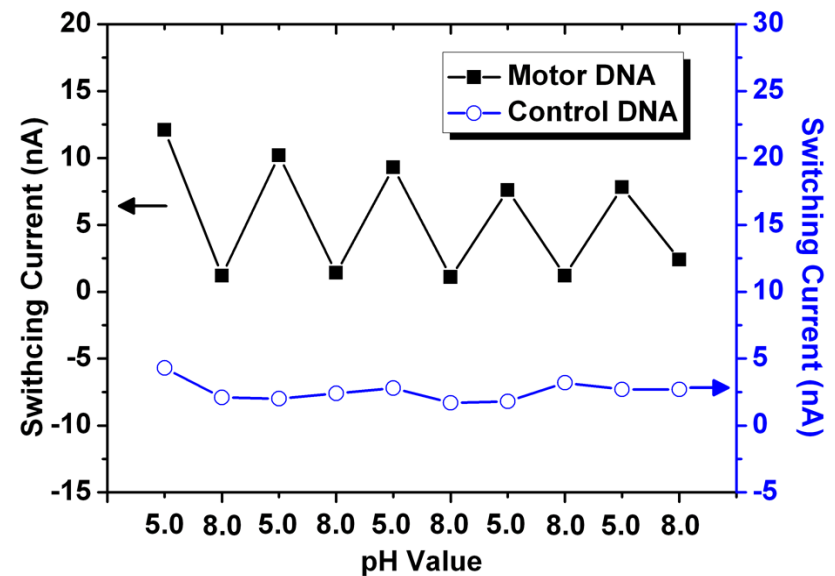
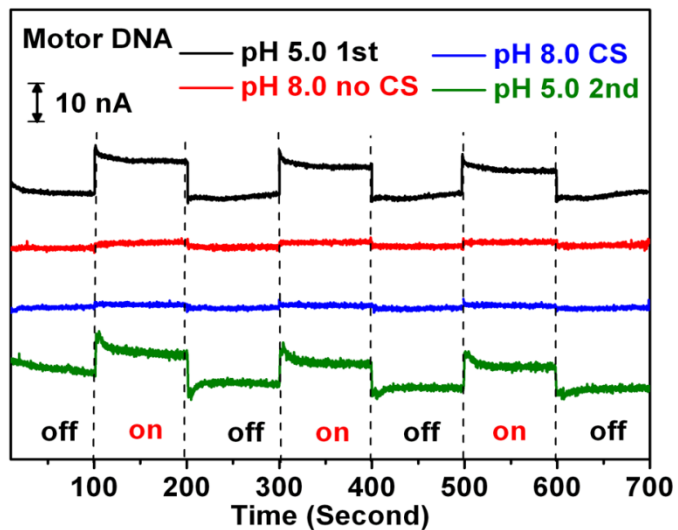
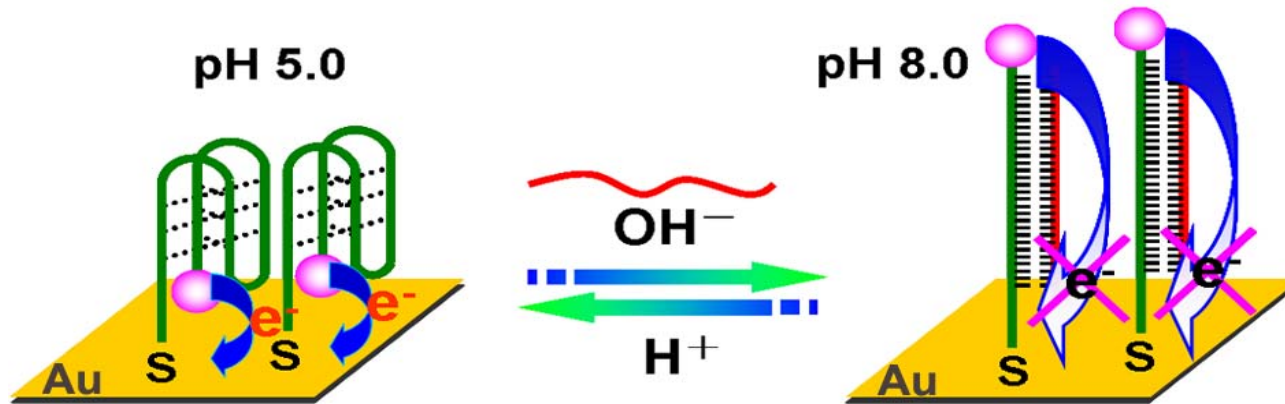
*Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* 46, 3915-3917



# Smart surface based on DNA motor



# Photoelectric Conversion Switch Based on Quantum Dots with i-motif DNA Scaffolds



# Acknowledgement

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Dr. Rachel Mckendry (Cambridge)

Prof. Qi Ouyang (Cambridge)

# DNA 16, June 7-11, 2010, in Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Chair: **Yongli Mi** (HKUST); Co-Chair: **Dongsheng Liu**

\* For food:  
Chinese, Western, Asian, or  
anything you want.

\* For shopping  
- Shopper's paradise





# We are looking forward to seeing you!

Please contact [DNA@nanoctr.cn](mailto:DNA@nanoctr.cn) for further information

