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Fachbereich Physik, Universität Stuttgart Max-Planck-Institut für Festkörperforschung Max-Planck-Institut für Intelligente Systeme

Ansprechpartner: Prof. Harald Giessen E-Mail: giessen@physik.uni-stuttgart.de

Telefon: 0711 - 685-65111



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Universität Stuttgart, Pfaffenwaldring 57, 70569 Stuttgart-Vaihingen

Gastgeber: Fakultät Physik, Universität Stuttgart, Telefon: 0711 - 685-65111

Functional DNA nanotechnology

Laura Na Liu - Antrittsvorlesung Universität Stuttgart

Abstract

A fundamental design rule that nature has developed for biological machines is the intimate correlation between motion and function. One class of biological machines is molecular motors in living cells, which directly convert chemical energy into mechanical work. They coexist in every eukaryotic cell, but differ in their types of motion, the filaments they bind to, the cargos they carry, as well as the work they perform. Such natural structures offer inspiration and blueprints for constructing DNA-assembled artificial systems, which mimic their functionality. In this talk, I will discuss a variety of DNA-assembled architectures with different motion and functions. I will also outline ongoing research directions and conclude that DNA nanotechnology has a bright future ahead.