

Plant Virus-Like Particles as Biotemplates for Nanoparticle Synthesis

Track Code: 2019-SOLO-68559

Categories:

- Biotechnology
- Micro & Nanotechnologies

Keywords:

- Coatings
- Decomposition
- Fabrication
- Nanoparticles
- Nanoscale
- Plant Virus
- Template
- Virus
- Virus-Like Particle

Researchers at Purdue University have developed plant virus-like particles (VLPs) derived from Barley-Stripe Mosaic Virus that can be used as biotemplates for synthesizing nanoparticles. The VLPs can be easily genetically modified to tune their size and shape prior to metal deposition. The researchers found that the VLPs adsorb twice as much metal as VLPs compared to Tobacco Mosaic Virus, allowing for thicker coatings and unique nanosynthesis opportunities. Furthermore, the VLPs have a unique region that is surface-exposed and can be engineered for additional desired properties, such as accelerated deposition rate. The applications for these VLPs is in the miniaturization of electronic devices, such as in battery electrodes.

Advantages:

- Twice as much metal adsorbed compared to Tobacco Mosaic
- Environmentally-friendly

Potential Applications:

- Nanoparticle synthesis
- Nanosynthesis

People:

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Intellectual Property:

Application Date: February 28, 2020
Type: Utility Patent
Country of Filing: United States
Patent Number: (None)
Issue Date: (None)

Application Date: February 28, 2019
Type: Provisional-Patent
Country of Filing: United States
Patent Number: (None)
Issue Date: (None)

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