

# Controlling nanoparticle transport and capture in nanopores: an open challenge for nanopore sensing and energy applications

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Thursday, March 19 2020,  
16:00 ~

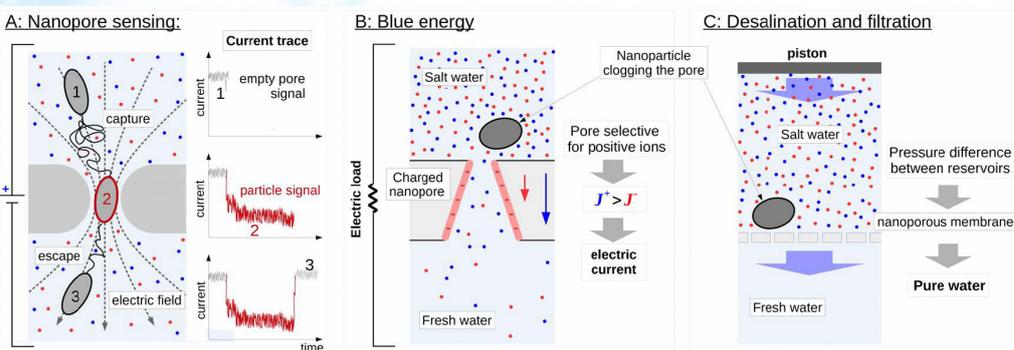
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言語 / 英語 Language / English

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### Abstract:

Nanopore based devices have been revolutionizing several key-applications such as biosensing, energy harvesting and water treatment. The interaction between dispersed nanoparticles (e.g. biological macromolecules or artificial nanometric solid objects) and the nanopores plays a crucial role in all cited technologies. In sensing applications [1], selected molecules must be easily captured by the pore while the capture of unwanted molecules has to be avoided. Instead, in blue-energy harvesting and nanopore based water treatment systems, nanoparticles can clog the pore, dramatically reducing the system efficiency. Technological advancements are hindered by our lack of control and understanding of the coupling between hydrodynamics, electrokinetics and chemical effects that govern the nanoparticle motion at nanoscale. An additional challenge is the nanometric scale of the system that makes the usual continuum modelling often unsuitable. In this talk, I will present the main challenges related to capture and transport of nanoparticles through nanopores, the possible computational techniques to unravel transport regimes (ranging from atomistic models to continuum approaches [1]) and some preliminary results concerning two specific issues, namely, electroosmotic induced capture [2] and dielectrophoretic trapping (nanopore tweezers [3-4]).



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