# Supporting Information

# In-situ molecule-level interfacial tailoring of metastable intermolecular composite chip toward on-demand heat release and information encryption

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**Fig. S2.** The size profile distribution of (a) fresh-Sl-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip, (b) Sp-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip and (c) FSl-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip, respectively.

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sample B and B', showing the similar mirror-like refection phenomenon and the obvious liquid level deformation as the samples were pressed into the surface of water, and (d) the whole self-cleaning process of sample B and B' using two kinds of contaminants (oil-immersed chalk and sand powders), and the polluted surface were easily totally self-cleaned using common water droplets.

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**Fig. S10.** Two kinds of detail information recording and encryption processes. The relatively complex character "MIC" was conveniently marked on the MIC chip surface by constructing the hydrophobic and hydrophilic adjacent controllable interface (**STEP 1**), and then the information encryption and hiding process of the marked chip was realized by soaking in alcohol water and vacuum drying (**STEP 2**) compared with the two fully soaked MIC pictures from **STEP 1-2**. In addition, we repeated the operation of the first step to complete the information input (**STEP 3**), and realized the hydrophilic encryption of the information again by means of the additional applied electric field force (**STEP 4**). The marked characters in the enlarged area within the yellow circle are no longer visible compared with the two fully soaked MIC pictures from **STEP 3-4**.

**Fig. S11.** Relationship of output of heat and underwater storage time for Sp-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip and FSI-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip.

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**Movie S7**. The rolling-off of a water droplet on superhydrophobic MIC chip after wetting change from FSI-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip.

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**Movie S9**. The first information recording process on Sp-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip, forming marked MIC chip

Movie S10. Marked MIC chip after hydrophobic encryption process

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Table 1. CA of different droplets on Sp-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip surface.

#### **1. Experimental Section**

#### **1.1 Reagents and materials**

Polyethyleneimine (PEI), silver nitrate and sodium dodecyl sulfonate  $(C_{12}H_{25}SO_4Na)$  were supplied by Aladdin Industrial Co., China. Isopropyl alcohol (IPA) was purchased from Kelong Industrial Inc., China. Commercially available nano-Al (~60 nm, 99.9%) and manganese oxide (~100 nm, 99.9%) particles used as the high-energy fuel and oxidizer in the MICs. Other reagents (e.g. NaOH, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, tetradecane, ethanol) with analytical grade were from Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., China and used without further purification. The deionized water (18M $\Omega$ ·cm) was used throughout all experiments.

#### **1.2** Construction of multifunctional MIC chip

The multifunctional MIC chip was designed using a convenient and highly controlled technology in this study, and we selected nano-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip as a typical example. Firstly, nano-Al/MnO2 MIC chip was fabricated by a controllable cathodic co-EPD process. Adding nano-fuel and oxidizer (mole ratio of 2.5:1) into the optimized dispersion solution of IPA and ethanol (9:1 in volume ratio) with PEI as trace additive was to form a stable suspension after sonication dispersion for 20min at room temperature. For the selection of working electrodes, after ultrasonic cleaning in ethanol and DI water repeatedly and vacuum drying at 80°C for 30min, conductive glass (ITO) and MEMS semiconductor bridge igniting components were used as two kinds of substrates for analyzing the wettability and exothermic properties, respectively, and their corresponding fixed direction and distance in suspension was vertical with 1cm and horizontal with 0.2cm in a co-EPD cell with a same free volume of 50mL. The applied field strength and deposition temperature was 20V/mm and 25°C, respectively. After co-EPD process of charged nano-fuel and oxidizer particles forced by effective electric field, the nano-Al/MnO2 MIC films coated on working electrodes were removed into vacuum oven at 80°C for 1h. Secondly, the design of superhydrophobic nano-Al/MnO2 MIC chip was realized by facile electrodepostion using a two-electrode setup in optimal electrolyte of silver nitrate and sodium dodecyl sulfonate (4:1 in mole ratio), where as-obtained fresh sample and graphite-C rod were used as the anode and cathode, respectively. The distance of two electrodes and temperature was 1.0cm and 25°C, respectively, unless otherwise specified. The target superhydrophobic MIC chip was obtained after vacuum drying treatment for 10min. Thirdly, ten volts was applied to change nano-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip from super-water-repellent to superhydrophilic again for promising military application. Fourthly, the superhydrophilic chip from step III can be also changed to superhydrophobic counterpart via organic (e.g. ethanol, isopropyl alcohol) gas fumigation and vacuum drying, respectively. All samples were divided into three groups of (i) fresh superhydrophilic chip (Sl-nano-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip), (ii) superhydrophobic sample (Sp-nano-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip), and (iii) functionalized superhydrophilic sample (FSl-nano-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip).

#### **1.3 Material characterization**

The microstructures of dual functional products were studied by using an X-ray diffraction (XRD) equipment (Bruker D8 Advance, Cu Kα1) with a scanning rate of 5°/min. The surface morphology and compositions of all samples were characterized by field emission scanning electron microscope (FESEM, Tescan Mira4 operated at 15KeV) equipped with energy dispersive spectroscopy (EDS, Xplore 30), an atomic absorption spectrometer (AAS, 180-80, Exter Analytical spectrograph, USA). The chemical bonds were operated by a Fourier transform-infrared spectrometer (FT-IR, Nicolet iS10, USA) using the Attenuated Total Reflection (ATR) mode in the range of 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>-400 cm<sup>-1</sup> and a Raman spectrometer (Thermo Fisher DXR2xi, USA), respectively.

#### 1.4 Wettability analysis

The superhydrophobic/super-hydrophilic properties of samples were investigated by an optical geniometer (SDC350, China) with a digital camera (D7000, Nikon, Japan), respectively. The wetting and water-repellent performance test was repeated five times from different random positions at room temperature, and their final average (e.g. water contact angle (CA)) was used as a virtual value. The immersion experiments were carried out in beakers and a teflon liner (Anhui Kemi Machinery Technology Co. Ltd). Different humidity environments were controlled by a salt spray test chamber (ATEC, Co., Ltd, China), and immersion and droplet rolling tests were recorded by a high-speed camera (Phantom v7.3, Vision Research, Inc., Wayne, NJ, USA) with a Nikon AF Nikkor lens. And all samples were fixed in the perpendicular direction overwater & underwater for verifying their aging capability.

#### 1.5 Thermal analysis

For analyzing the exothermic reaction of sample, the differential scanning calorimetry (DSC, NETZSCH, STA449F3, Germany) tests were performed under Ar (99.99999%) environment at a flow rate of 30 mL/min. All samples with ca 10mg were heated in a platinum crucible from 25°C to 1000°C at a heating rate of 30°C/min, and the corresponding heat release analysis was realized by the attached fitting software. In addition, combined with the MEMS technique, all obtained functional MIC chips based on a semiconductor bridge were ignited and detonated using the typical electric initiator equipped with a semi-automatic capacitor charge/discharge controller was applied to investigate the combustion performance of samples the ignition test of as-obtained MIC chips were investigated by an automatic capacitor charge and discharge detonator. The visual flame structure and deflagration of all MIC chips were recoreded by high-speed camera (Phantom v7.3, Vision Research, Inc., Wayne, NJ, USA) at a rate of 10<sup>4</sup> fps.

## 2. Figures



Different MIC chips

**Fig. S1.** Theoretical output of heat of different frequently studied MIC chips, which can be divided into three levels of exothermic power of (i) top level MIC (Al/MnO<sub>2</sub>, etc.) chips marked by light green ellipse, (ii) medium level MIC (Al/NiO, etc.) chips marked by light blue ellipse, (iii) low level MIC (A/Ta<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, etc.) chips marked by light orange ellipse.



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**Fig. S5.** Atomic percentage of elements in fresh-Sl-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip, Sp-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip and FSl-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip in three random regions. For all sample, the atomic percentage of Ag is extreme small much different from that of others. The atomic percentage of main elements change a little for fresh-Sl-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip, Sp-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip, but FSl-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip.



Fig. S6. The detailed mechanism analysis of structural changes of samples with wettability-switch ability.



**Fig. S7.** Complete wettability switching process (a: static droplet contact state, b: completely submerged state) using three ingenious steps of (I) electro-deposition of Ag, (II) external electric field, and (III) soaking process in alcohol water, from **sample A:** fresh-Sl-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip, to **sample B:** Sp-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip, to **sample C:** Sp-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip, and finally to sample B' (similar to Sp-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip) with great super-hydrophobicity, (c) the typical immersion process of sample B and B', showing the similar mirror-like refection phenomenon and the obvious liquid level deformation as the samples were pressed into the surface of water, and (d) the whole self-cleaning process of sample B and B' using two kinds of contaminants (oil-immersed chalk and sand powders), and the polluted surface were easily totally self-cleaned using common water droplets.



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Movie S4. The immersion process of Sp-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip with obvious light-refection of soaked part

Movie S5. The wettability of FSI-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip

Movie S6. The immersion process of FS1-Al/MnO2 MIC chip

**Movie S7**. The rolling-off of a water droplet on superhydrophobic MIC chip after wetting change from FSI-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip.

**Movie S8**. The immersion process of superhydrophobic MIC chip after wetting change from FSI-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip.

Movie S9. The first information recording process on Sp-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip, forming marked MIC chip

Movie S10. Marked MIC chip after hydrophobic encryption process

Movie S11. Second information recording process

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# 4. Table

Droplets	CA (°)	Error (°)
Water	164	0.6
Diiodomethane	161	0.7
Peanut oil	160	0.9
Olive oil	158	0.6
Hexadecane	156	1
Tetradecane	153	0.5

Table 1. CA of different droplets on Sp-Al/MnO<sub>2</sub> MIC chip surface.