

Stability analysis of surface chemistry controlled superhydrophobic Tungsten Oxide($W_{18}O_{49}$) nanowire arrays submerged underwater

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Superhydrophobic $W_{18}O_{49}$ nanowire (NW) arrays were synthesized using a thermal evaporation and surface chemistry modification methods by self-assembled monolayer(SAM). As fabricated superhydrophobic $W_{18}O_{49}$ NWs surface shows water contact angle of 163.2° and has reliable stability even in underwater conditions. This novel phenomenon is an obvious evidence of the Cassie-Baxter state of surface modified $W_{18}O_{49}$ NWs array. The stability test of underwater superhydrophobicity of $W_{18}O_{49}$ NWs arrays was conducted by changing hydrostatic pressure and surface energy of $W_{18}O_{49}$ NWs arrays. The stability of superhydrophobicity in underwater conditions decreased exponentially as hydrostatic pressure applied to the substrates increased. In addition, as surface energy decreased, the underwater stability of superhydrophobic surface increased sharply. Specifically, superhydrophobic stability increased exponentially as surface energy of $W_{18}O_{49}$ NWs arrays was decreased. The combination of fugacity and Laplace pressure explained this exponential decay of stability according to hydrostatic pressure and surface energy.