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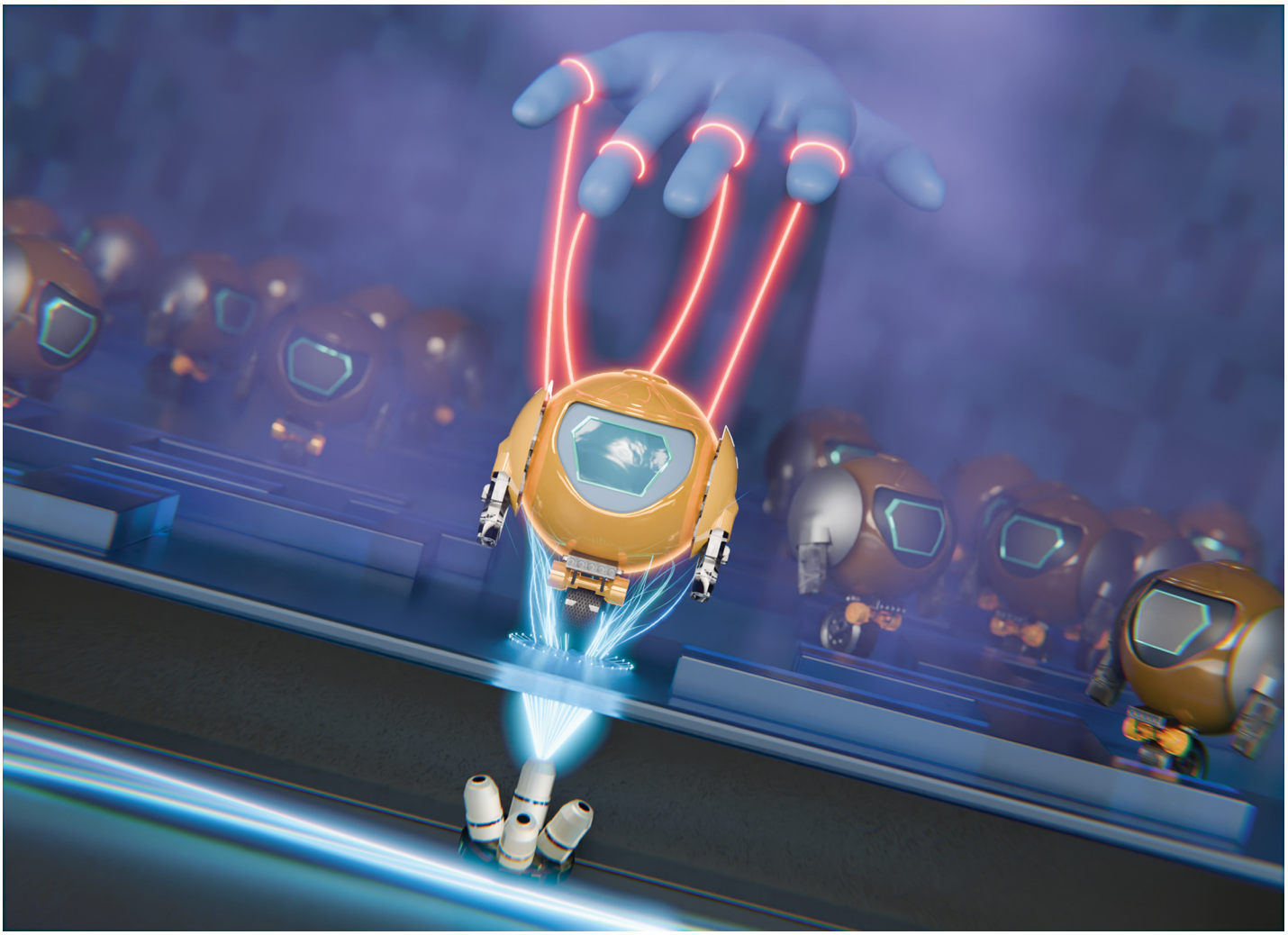

Showcasing research from Professor Das' Laboratory, School of Mechanical Engineering, University of Delaware, Delaware, USA.

Individual closed-loop control of micromotors by selective light actuation

Independent control of micromotors is a critical challenge in unlocking their potential for real-world applications like targeted drug delivery and advanced microfabrication. This study presents a novel approach using UV light, directed by a digital micromirror device, to activate and guide individual micromotors. Combining light-based activation with magnetic steering, the micromotors were arranged into patterns, showcasing the precision of this method. Furthermore, automated computer-controlled guidance was demonstrated, highlighting its efficiency and potential for precise, scalable micromotor control.

Artist credit: Gopikrishna J, PhD (Scientific Illustrator, SubUnit Studio)

As featured in:

See Sambeeta Das *et al.*, *Soft Matter*, 2024, **20**, 9523.

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