Introduction to Nanotechnology: Insights into a Nano-Sized World

What is nanotechnology?

Definition 1:

Nanotechnology is the creation of functional materials, devices, and systems through control of matter on the nanometer length scale, exploiting novel phenomena and properties (physical, chemical, biological) present only at that length scale.

Definition 2:

Nanotechnology is the engineering of functional systems at the molecular scale. It refers to the projected ability to construct items from the bottom up, using techniques and tools being developed today to make complete, highly advanced products.

What is nanotechnology?

Some questions need to be answered...

- What is the nano length scale?
- Is nanotechnology new?
- What "novel" and "exciting" phenomena are at this scale?
- How do we use this to our advantage?

What does nano really mean?



mountain 1 km 1000 m

0.001 km = 1 m

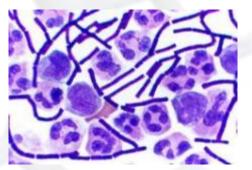


child 1 m



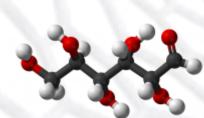
ant 1 mm 0.001 m

1,000 mm = 1 m



bacteria 1 μm 0.000001 m

1,000,000 µm = 1 m



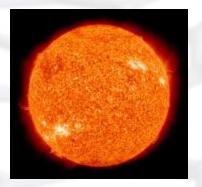
sugar molecule 1 nm 0.000000001 m

1,000,000,000 nm = 1 m



1 m = 1 **BILLION** nm

1 km = Saturn to Sun



How old is nanotechnology?

1965 Ferromagnetic fluids patented by S. Papel

1974 The word "nanotechnology" used

Early 1980s Quantum dots discovered by Alexei Ekimov

1985 Buckyball discovered

- 1991 Carbon nanotubes discovered
- 1997 Gold nanoshells discovered

1999 Doxil receives FDA approval

2008 Gold nanoshells therapy in human clinical trials

1687 Isaac Newton published "Principia," laws of motion

1769 Watt invented steam engine

1839 Goodyear invented vulcanized rubber.

1885 Hertz discovered photoelectric effect

1916 Einstein published theory of relativity

1905-1925 Birth of Quantum Mechanics

1938 Electron microscope

1981 Scanning electron microscope

How old is nanotechnology?

In comparison, nanotechnology is fairly young.

Correction: Nano-sized objects have been around for centuries, but the ability to see, understand and control them is recent

- **Quantum mechanics** is needed to understand physics
 - atomic properties
 - wave properties
- **Tools** are needed to see length scale
 - transmission electron microscope
 - scanning electron mmicroscope
 - atomic force microscope
- **Processing technology** is needed to control size, chemistry, shape, etc.
 - scanning tunneling microscope
 - atomic force microscope
 - evaporation techniques
 - self assembly (utilizing surface tension)
 - wet chemistry techniques

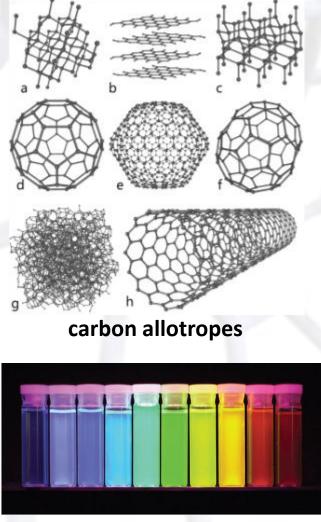
← for imaging

←for manipulation & fabrication

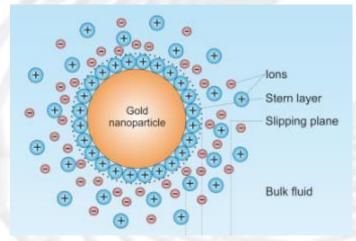
Why?

← for modeling

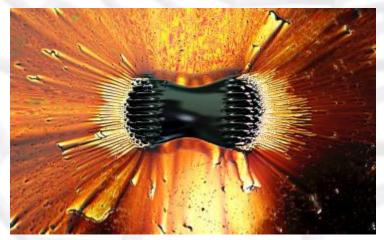
Types of Nano Phenomena



quantum dots

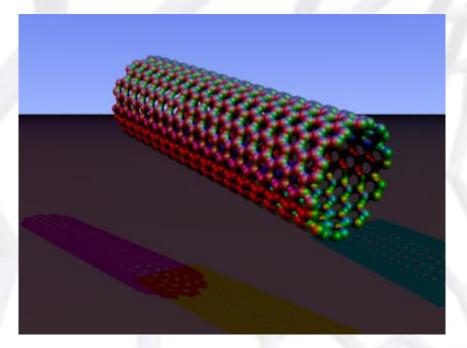


gold nanoshells

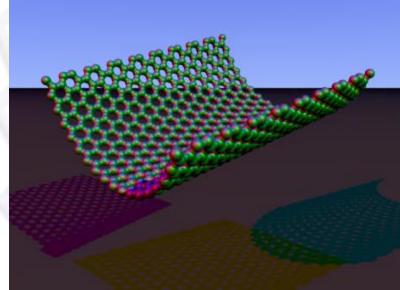


ferro fluids (magnetic)

Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes



Graphene: a sheet of carbon atoms. → Roll up the sheet up to form SWNTs.



SWNT Properties and Applications

Exceptional mechanical strength

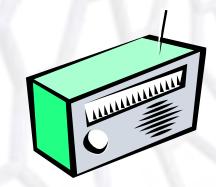
Tensile strength > 37 GPa (steel 2 GPa) Young's modulus ~0.62 – 1.25 TPa (steel 0.3 TPa)

Low density

~1.4 g/cm³

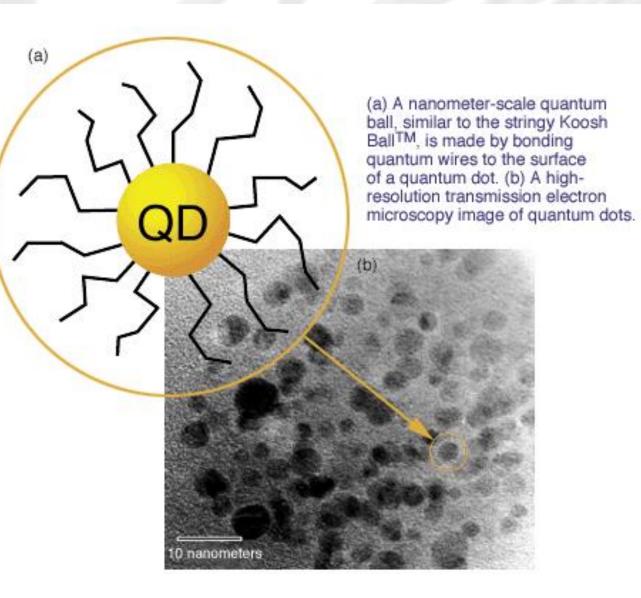
- Steel ~8 g/cm³
- Aluminum 2.7 g/cm³
- High-performance, lightweight fibers
 Sports equipment: tennis racquets, golf clubs, baseball bats
 Body armor: replace Kevlar (PPTA) and Zylon (PBO)
 Futuristic applications: carbon nanotube rope from Earth to Moon
 High-performance concrete
 Road de-icing applications

The World's Smallest Radio



Star Wars theme song played from the world's smallest radio

Quantum Dots



Quantum Dots

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http://www.onlineinvestingai.com/blog/wpcontent/uploads/2009/02/quantum_dots-300x224.jpg

insert image here

http://www.concepts.aero/system/files/quantum-dots.jpg

Rotate image 90 degrees clockwise

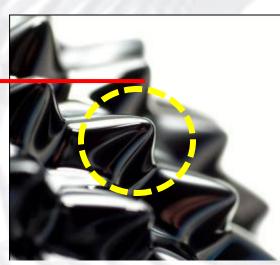
Quantum Dot Applications

High-Performance Optical Properties

- Optical beacons
- LEDs (light-emitting diodes)
- Solar cells
- Cancer detection
- Light bulbs
- Next-generation screens computers cell phones televisions



Ferrofluids (Magnetic Fluids)



insert image here http://www.ucl.ac.uk/~ucfbpmb/ferrofluid%20 copy.jpg

What makes up a ferrofluid?

- Ferromagnetic nanoparticles
- Surfactant (detergent)
- Carrier fluid (kerosene, vegetable oil)

Why Ferrofluids? Why Nano?

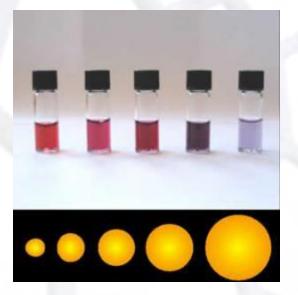
- Without magnetic field nanosuspension behaves as a fluid.
- Under controlled magnetic fields can manipulate properties
- Nanoparticles behave as permanent magnets.
 That's a lot of magnets in a little fluid!!!

Ferrofluid Applications

- Audio speakers
- Seals (engineering applications)
- Cancer treatments (use magnetic field to heat particles and cook cancer cells)
- Drug delivery systems (manipulate drugs through induced magnetic field)
- Toys

Nano Shells

- Metal nanoshells are excellent optical absorbers
 - Particularly gold, because of the strong optical absorption from the metal's response to light
 - Similar to quantum dots; shell diameter and thickness play a role in optical tuning
- Shells are comprised of gold or metal layer engineered to a particular thickness with a glass or dielectric core



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http://www.nanotechnow.com/images/Nanospectra-logo-sm.jpg

Gold Nanoshell Synthesis

insert image here

http://education.mrsec.wisc.edu/SlideShow/slide s/nanoparticles/Au_nanoshell_synthesis.jpg

- Near infrared peak absorption characteristics with gold shells
- Wavelength that is not absorbed by skin
- Important features when considering cancer treatment applications.

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http://education.mrsec.wisc.edu/Edetc/Sli deShow/images/nanoparticles/Au_wavele ngth.jpg

Nanoshell Applications

- Optical imaging contrast agents
- Photothermal ablation (cooking) of cancerous cells
- Pharmaceutical delivery
- Optically controlled microfluidics valves
- Biosensing

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Misconceptions about Nanotechnology

insert image here http://www.flickr.com/phot os/kt/8727693/

This is science fiction!!!!

Consumer Uses and Projections

Motor vehicles

Such as catalytic converters, interiors, coatings, adhesives, lighting

Electronics and computers

Such as hardware, displays, recording media, batteries, electronic parts, lighting, ink and paper

Household products and improvements Such as packaging, cleaning products, coatings

Personal care

Such as sunscreen cosmetics, over-the-counter health products, oral hygiene, eye glass coatings (anti-reflective, scratch resistant)

- Sporting equipment
- Clothing
- Air and water filtration and purification
- And more...





Nanoworld as a Whole

- Google "nanotechnology" and see ~24,100,000* results... and growing everyday
- Nanotechnology is in emerging technology that surrounds us:
 - Consumer products contain it
 - Advanced medical treatments, renewable energy methods and consumer products use it
 - Our job is to understand, design, and control it
- By 2015, nanotechnology revenues are estimated to reach \$2.5 trillion (\$2,500,000,000,000) worldwide
 - This is the future!!!!

Acknowledgements

- National Science Foundation Grant #0840889 for GK12 program funding.
- Dr. John S. Hutchinson and Dr. Carolyn Nichol of Rice University for supporting information and images.