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# What is Nanotechnology?

**SHINE:** Seattle's **H**ub for **I**ndustry-driven **N**anotechnology **E**ducation  
North Seattle College



# What is Nanotechnology?

## Nanotechnology is....

- the control of matter on the atomic level
- the ability to build using atoms as building blocks
- the manufacture of novel materials with novel properties

## What is a nanometer?

- $1 \text{ nm} = 10^{-9} \text{ m} = 0.000000001 \text{ m} = \text{one billionth of a meter}$

## What is a nanostructure?

- Structure with at least one dimension  $< 100 \text{ nm}$



# The Scale of Things – Nanometers and More

## Things Natural



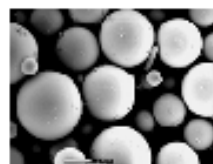
Dust mite  
↔  
200 μm



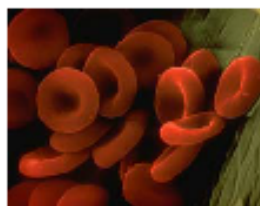
Human hair  
~ 60-120 μm wide



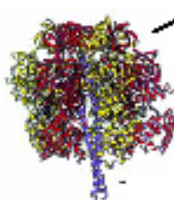
Ant  
~ 5 mm



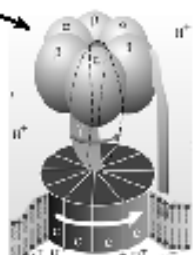
Fly ash  
~ 10-20 μm



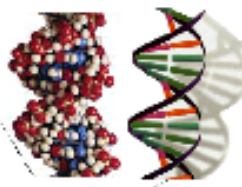
Red blood cells  
(~7-8 μm)



~10 nm diameter

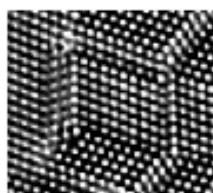


ATP synthase



DNA

~2-1/2 nm diameter



Atoms of silicon  
spacing ~tenths of nm

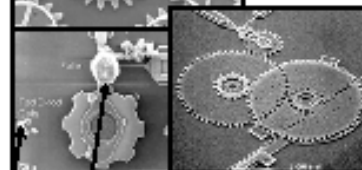
## Things Manmade



Head of a pin  
1-2 mm

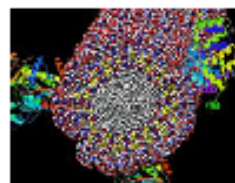
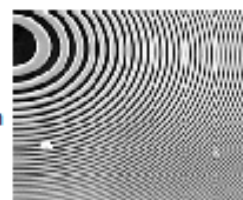


MicroElectroMechanical (MEMS) devices  
10-100 μm wide

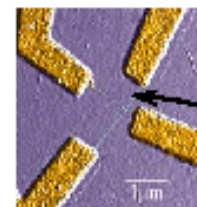


Pollen grain  
Red blood cells

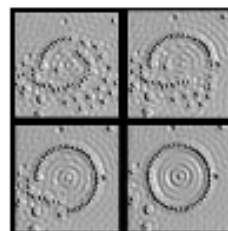
Zone plate x-ray "lens"  
Outer ring spacing ~35 nm



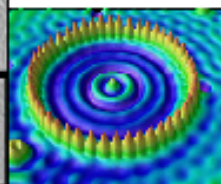
Self-assembled,  
Nature-inspired structure  
Many 10s of nm



Nanotube electrode

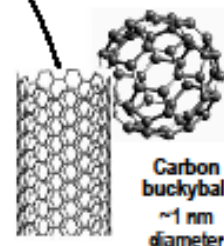


Quantum corral of 48 iron atoms on copper surface  
positioned one at a time with an STM tip  
Corral diameter 14 nm



### The Challenge

*Fabricate and combine nanoscale building blocks to make useful devices, e.g., a photosynthetic reaction center with integral semiconductor storage.*



Carbon nanotube  
~1.3 nm diameter

# Why Study Nanoscience and Nanotechnology?

## **Nanoscience:**

The study of fundamental principles of nanostructures between bulk and atomic properties.

## **Nanotechnology:**

The application of nano-structures into useful devices.



# The Very Beginnings...

500 – 1400 – Stained Glass

800 - 1600 – Nanoparticles in pottery

1200 - 1700 – Damascus Steel swords

~1910 – Particle sizes described in  
“nanometers”

1959 – Feynman’s speech:

*“The principles of physics, as far as I can see,  
do not speak against the possibility of  
maneuvering things atom by atom”*



# Then...

1970 – “Nanotechnology” coined (Taniguchi)

1981 – First atoms seen (Binnig and Rohrer, STM)

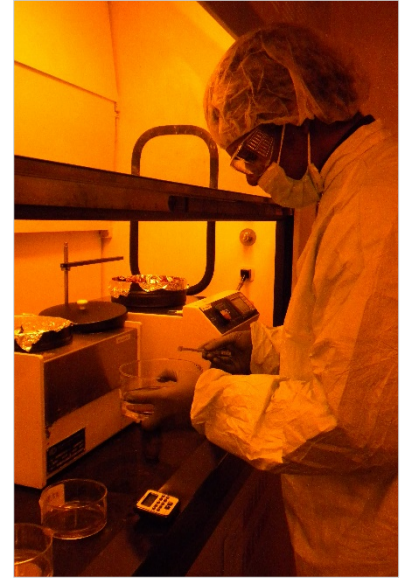
1986 – Engines of Creation, the Coming Age of Nanotechnology by Richard Drexler

*“Nanotechnology is the principle of atom manipulation atom by atom, through control of the structure of matter at the molecular level. It entails the ability to build molecular systems with atom-by-atom precision, yielding a variety of nanomachines”*





# Now...



# Why “Nano” is Interesting

## Particles are small

- High surface-to-volume ratio
- React differently
- Act differently (new properties)
- Interact with light differently
- Are on the scale of small biological structures

Quantum Mechanics meet Classical Mechanics

Interesting “new” structures

Interesting materials with nanoparticles embedded



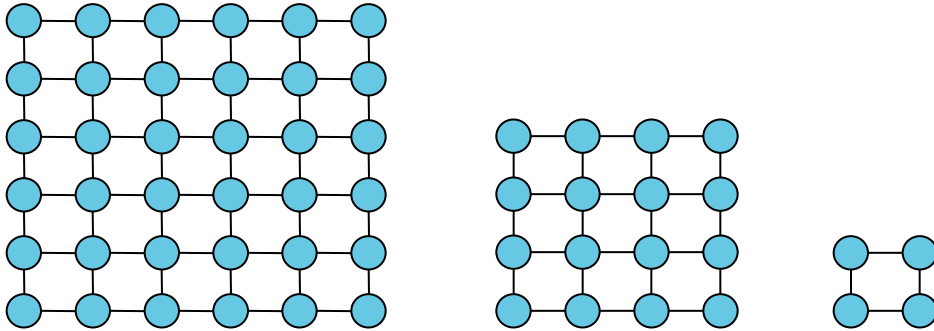


# Surface Area and Energy

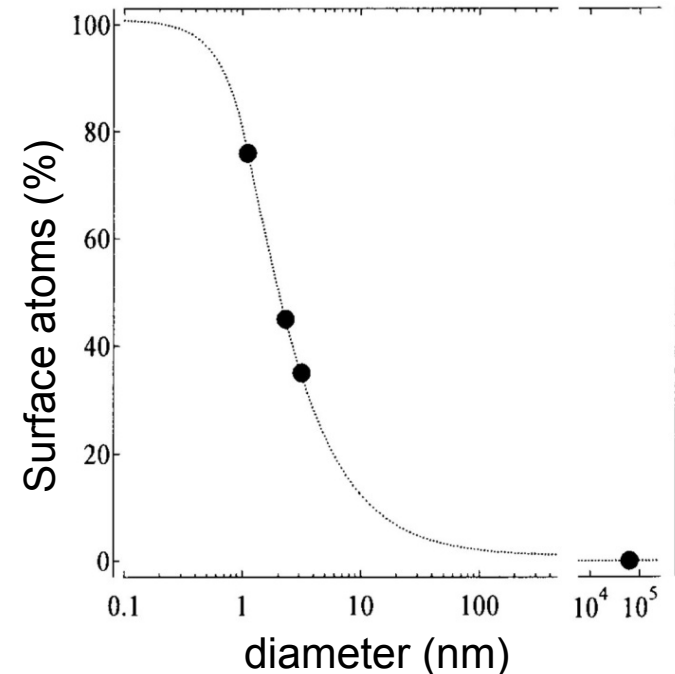
Surface energy increases with surface area

Large surface energy = instability

Driven to grow to reduce surface energy



Surface area vs particle size



C. Nutzenadel et al., *Eur. Phys. J. D.* **8**, 245 (2000).

# Physical Structure → Physical Property

What are the structural differences on the nanoscale?

- High percentage surface atoms
- Spatial confinement
- Reduced imperfections

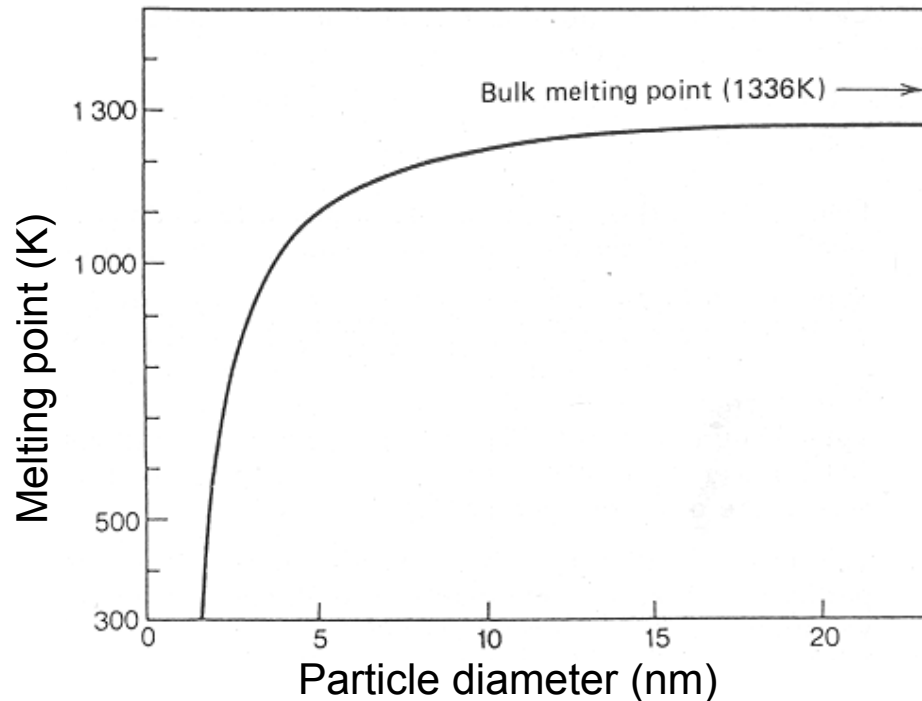
What properties are affected?

What properties can we tune?



# Melting Points

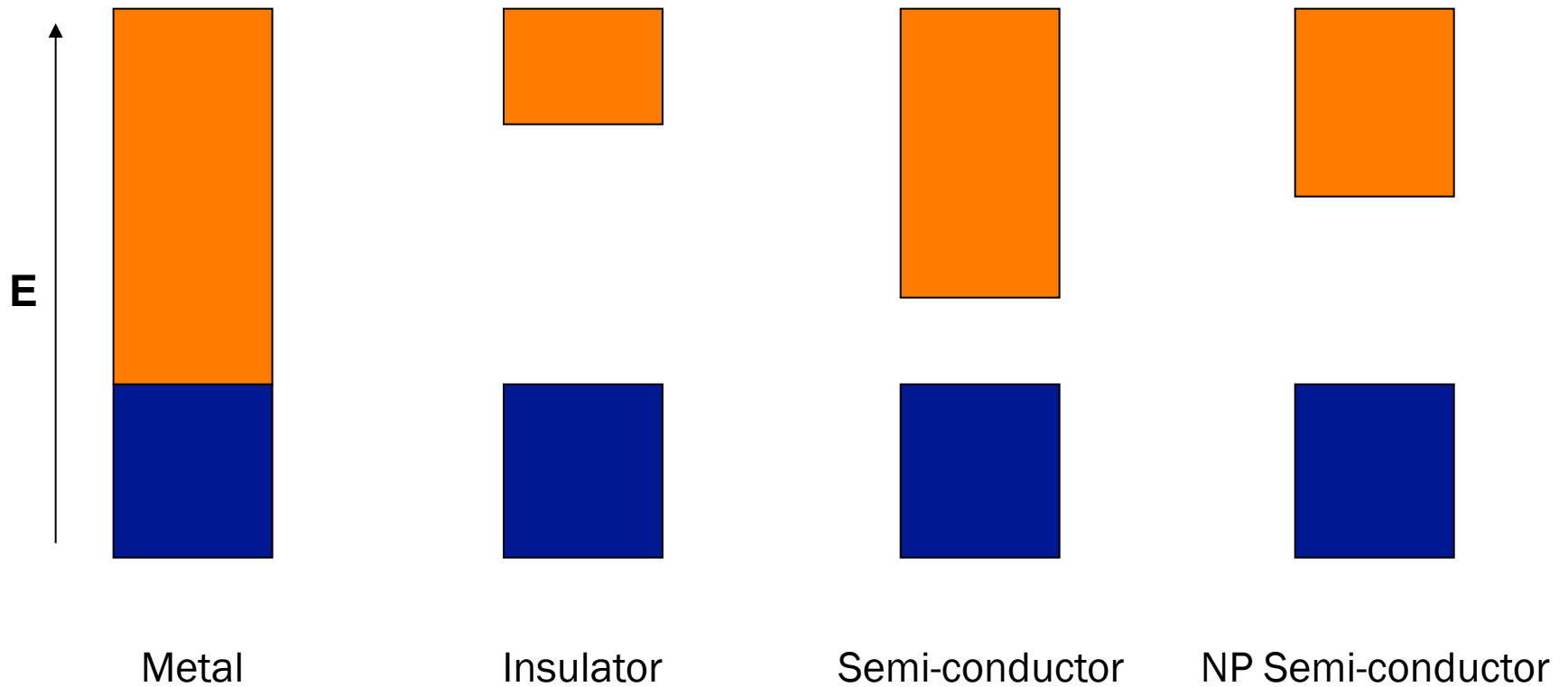
Lower melting point for nanostructures <100 nm  
Surface energy increases as size decreases



Ichimose, N. et al. *Superfine Particle Technology* Springer-Verlag London, 1992.

# Electrical Properties

Band gap increases as particle size decreases



# Particles & Light

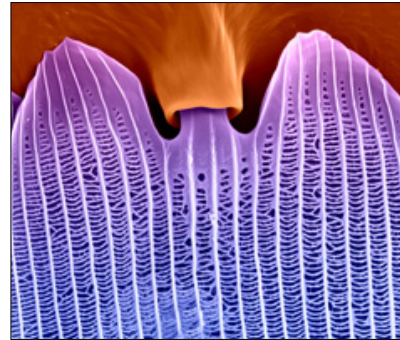
Particles interact differently with light



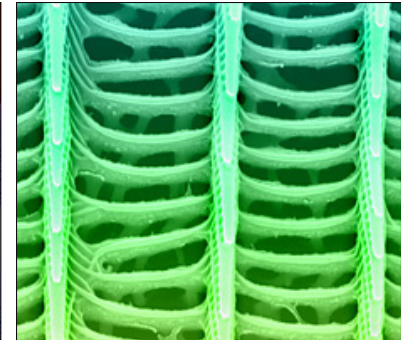
1X



220X



5000X



20,000X

*Militaries Study Animals for Cutting-Edge Camouflage. James Owen in England for National Geographic News March 12, 2003, Proc. R. Soc. Lond. B (1999) 266, 1403-1411*

Structures are smaller than wavelength of visible light

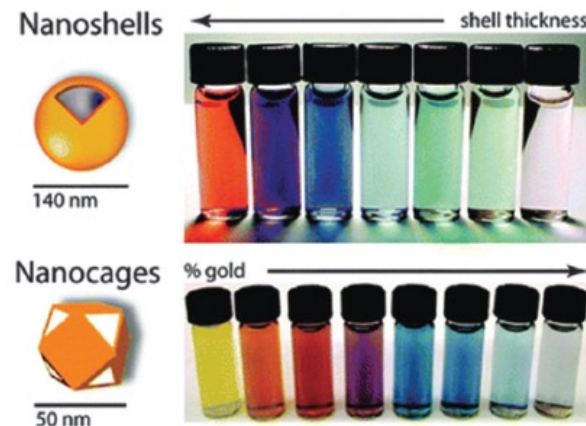
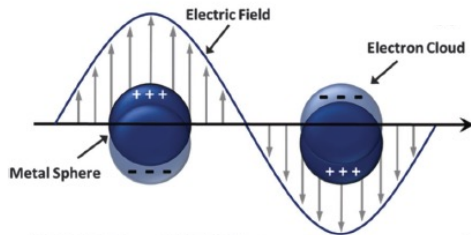
- Photonic Crystals
- Surface Plasmon Resonance
- Quantum Dot Fluorescence



# Optical Properties

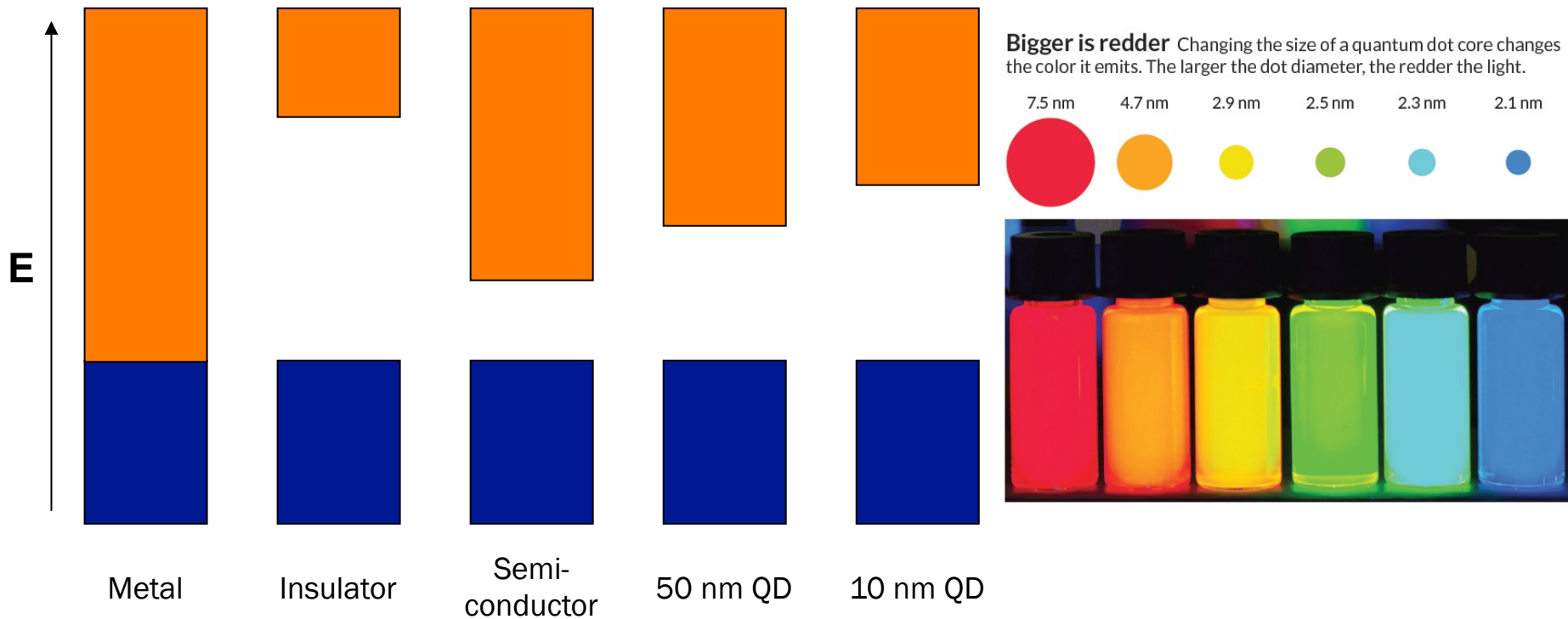
## Surface Plasmon Resonance

- Interaction of light with metallic nanoparticle surfaces
- Coupling of free electrons and incident light
- Localized coherent oscillation of electrons
- Tunable optical properties of nanostructures; depends on size, shape, composition, and environment



# Optical Properties: Quantum Dots

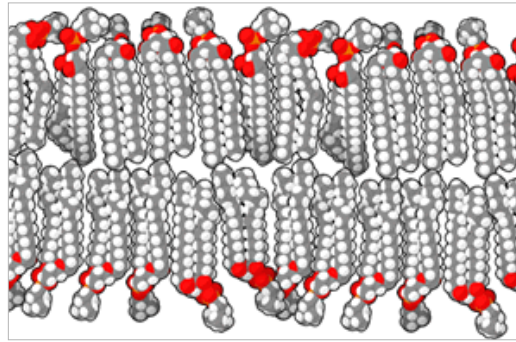
Band gap increases as particle size decreases



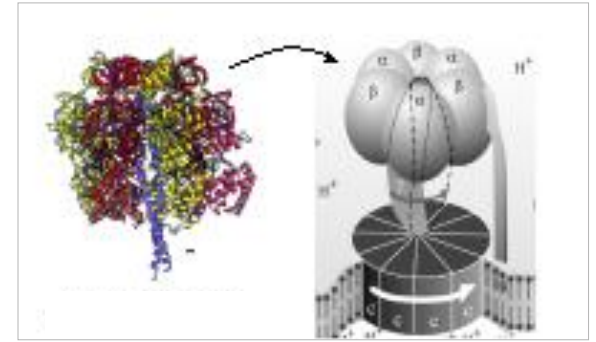
# Size: Biological Structures



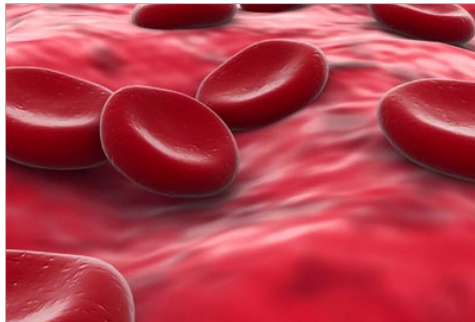
2 nm diameter



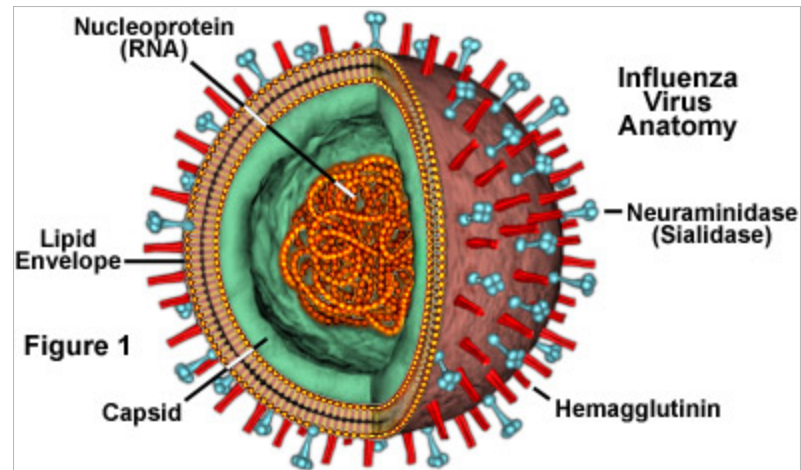
~5 nm thick



~10 nm diameter

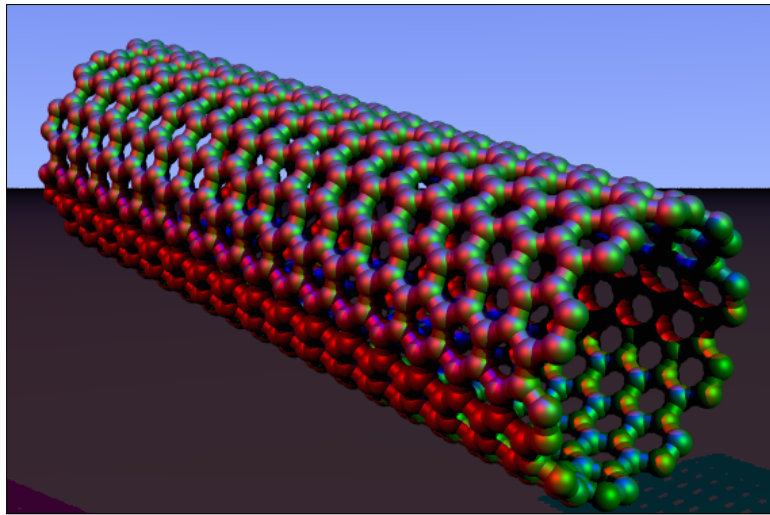


5000 nm diameter



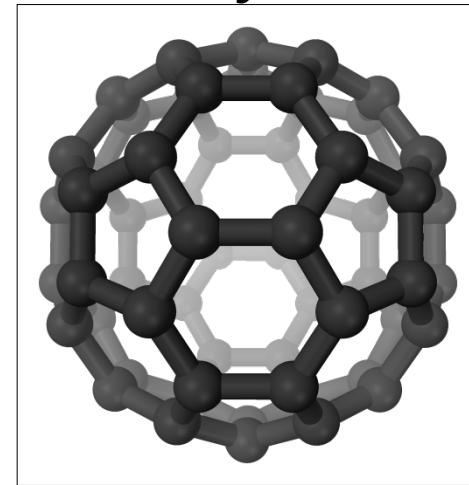
~50 - 100 nm diameter

# Unique Structures

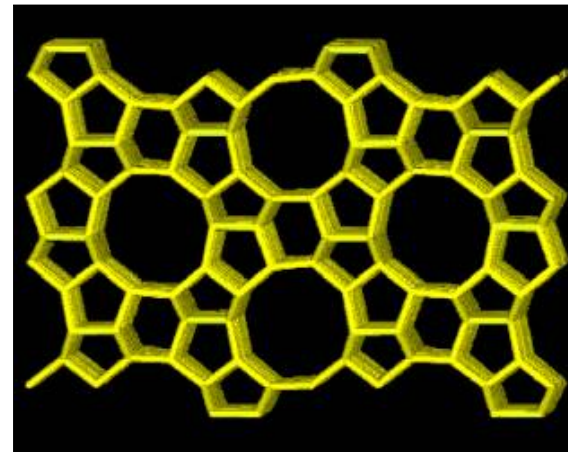


Carbon Nanotubes

Buckyballs



Zeolites



# Image References

Slide 3	<i>The Scale of Things</i> . [Online file]. 09 Nov 2015. < <a href="http://www.nist.gov/pml/wmd/metric/upload/doe-scale-of-things-18-jan-05.pdf">http://www.nist.gov/pml/wmd/metric/upload/doe-scale-of-things-18-jan-05.pdf</a> >.
Slide 5	<i>The South rose window of Notre Dame Cathedral, ca 1250. Polychrome lustreware bowl, 9th C, Iraq, British Museum. Damascus saber</i> . [Online images]. 02 Nov. 2015. < <a href="http://www.nano.gov/timeline">http://www.nano.gov/timeline</a> >
Slide 7	<i>Process Engineer at Nano3 Facility</i> . [Online image]. 02 Nov. 2015. < <a href="http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/pressrelease/nsf_locates_national_nanotechnology_coordinated_infrastructure_site_at_uc_s">http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/pressrelease/nsf_locates_national_nanotechnology_coordinated_infrastructure_site_at_uc_s</a> > <i>Female Scientist Pipetting</i> . [Online image]. 02 Nov. 2015. < <a href="http://www.nnin.org/news-events/spotlights/nanotechnology-careers">http://www.nnin.org/news-events/spotlights/nanotechnology-careers</a> >
Slide 9	C. Nutzenadel et al., <i>Eur. Phys. J. D.</i> 8, 245 (2000).
Slide 11	Ichimose, N. et al. <i>Superfine Particle Technology</i> Springer-Verlag London, 1992.



# Image References

Slide 13	<i>Militaries Study Animals for Cutting-Edge Camouflage. James Owen in England for National Geographic News. March 12, Proc. R. Soc. Lond. B (1999) 266, 1403-1411 (Penn State NACK Educational Resources, 2009).</i>
Slide 14	Motl, N.E. et al., <i>Chem. Soc. Rev.</i> , 43, 3823 (2014).
Slide 15	Witze, A., DAZZLING Dots. (Cover Story). <i>Science News</i> 188.1 (2015): 22-25. <i>Academic Search Premier</i> . Web. 9 Nov. 2015.
Slide 16	<i>Red blood cells</i> . [Online image]. 09 Aug. 2010. < <a href="http://www.topnews.in/health/files/Red-Blood-Cells.jpg">http://www.topnews.in/health/files/Red-Blood-Cells.jpg</a> >. <i>DNA double helix</i> . [Online image]. 09 Aug. 2010 < <a href="http://www.biojobblog.com/uploads/image/dna_500.jpg">http://www.biojobblog.com/uploads/image/dna_500.jpg</a> >. <i>Lipid bilayer</i> . [Online image]. 09 Aug. 2010 < <a href="http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f0/Lipid_bilayer_section.gif">http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f0/Lipid_bilayer_section.gif</a> >.



# Image References

<p>Slide 16</p>	<p><i>ATP synthase</i>. [Online image]. 09 Aug. 2010. <i>Adapted</i>. &lt;<a href="http://www.er.doe.gov/bes/scale_of_things.html">http://www.er.doe.gov/bes/scale_of_things.html</a>&gt;.</p> <p><i>Flu virus</i>. [Online image]. 09 Aug. 2010. &lt;<a href="http://www.chm.bris.ac.uk/webprojects2006/Kelly/influenzafigure1.jpg">http://www.chm.bris.ac.uk/webprojects2006/Kelly/influenzafigure1.jpg</a>&gt;</p>
<p>Slide 17</p>	<p><i>Carbon nanotube</i>: &lt;<a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Carbon_nanotube_armchair_povray.PNG">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Carbon_nanotube_armchair_povray.PNG</a>&gt;</p> <p><i>Buckyball</i>: &lt;<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buckminsterfullerene#/media/File:Buckminsterfullerene-perspective-3D-balls.png">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buckminsterfullerene#/media/File:Buckminsterfullerene-perspective-3D-balls.png</a>&gt;</p> <p><i>Zeolite</i>: &lt;<a href="http://chemeducator.org/sbibs/s0004003/spapers/430114wv.htm">http://chemeducator.org/sbibs/s0004003/spapers/430114wv.htm</a>&gt;</p>

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