ABC Research Alert
Vol 4, Number 3
Published Online: 31 December 2016

An Examination of Nanotechnology's Role as an Integral Part of Electronics

Sai Srujan Gutlapalli

Interior Architect/ Designer, RI Group, NY, USA

(sgutlapalli07@gmail.com)

Abstract

Nanotechnology is a highly interdisciplinary field that incorporates all aspects of physics, chemistry, biology, and engineering, as well as the study of materials science. In this relatively new discipline, the term "nanotechnology" is sometimes used as an acronym meaning "both science and technology." In its most restricted form, nanoscience refers to the study of atoms and the properties—both physical and chemical, as well as biological—that are associated with them. In its most restricted definition, nanotechnology refers to the controlled manipulation of physical attributes in order to produce new kinds of materials and functional systems that have previously unattainable capabilities.

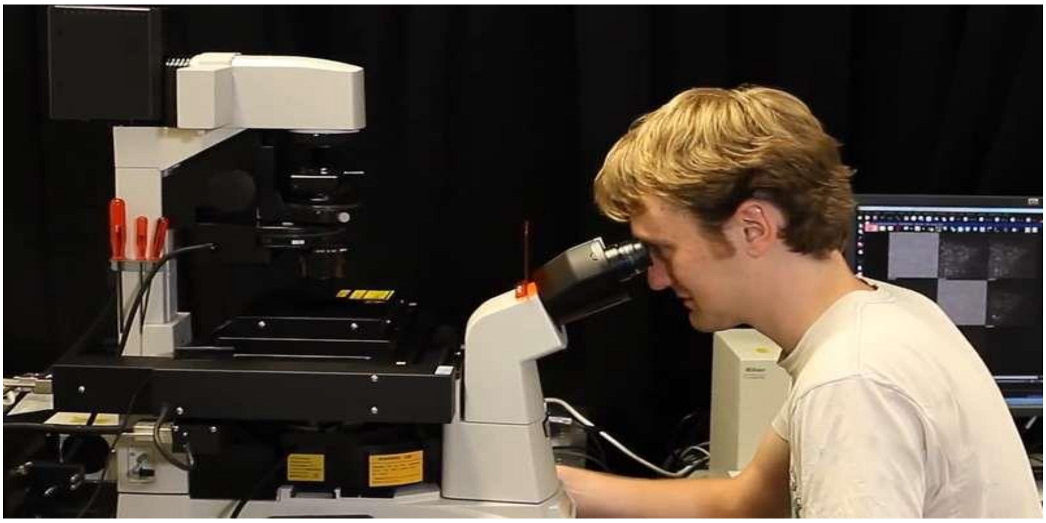
INTRODUCTION

Fabrication and production of components and materials operating on the scale of individual atoms or small atomic groupings. Materials created at this scale are for quanta, and the standard unit of measurement for "nanoscale" is the nanometer, which is equal to one billionth of a meter (nanoscale, which comes from the Greek word for "dwarf," which is where we get the prefix). Mechanical effects, which frequently display their own distinctive set of physical and chemical features. The technique for working at the nanoscale has become a fundamental aspect of electronics, and nanoengineering materials have become consumer products. Despite the fact that such small useable devices may not be possible for some decades (see Micro Electromechanical Systems), the technology for working at the nanoscale has become widespread. It is starting to become more obvious. Invisible sunscreens that are effective at blocking UV rays have been developed using nanocrystals of zinc oxide. Bandages now contain silver nanocrystals, which have been shown to kill germs and protect against infection.

NANOTECHNOLOGY OVERVIEW

In contrast to the recent efforts of engineers, nature has been developing "nanotechnology" for billions of years by employing enzymes and catalysts to organize various types of atoms and molecules into intricate fine structures. This is in contrast to the recent efforts of engineers. Made life possible. These natural products are constructed in a very effective manner, making use of the power to harvest solar energy, the power to convert minerals and water into living cells, the large array of nerve cells to store large amounts of data, and it possesses excellent functions such as the power to process information and the power to replicate itself perfectly.

At the nanoscale, which was formerly described as having dimensions of fewer than 100 nanometers, there are two primary factors that contribute to qualitative changes in the behavior of materials. First, the effects of quantum mechanics work in very small dimensions, which has led to the development of new physics and chemistry. Second, one characteristic that is unique to nanoscale structures is that they have an extremely high surface-to-volume ratio.



This indicates that there are no atoms very far from the surface or interface of the material, and the behavior of atoms at high-energy locations has a substantial impact on the properties of the material. This is because there are no atoms very far from the surface or contact. For instance, the reactivity of particles that have been catalyzed by metal typically increases dramatically as the particle size decreases. Gold at the macroscopic scale is chemically inert; nevertheless, gold at the nanoscale is highly reactive, catalytic, and melts at temperatures well below its melting point. Therefore, the properties of the material change depending on size, composition, and structure when considering dimensions on the nanoscale.

RESEARCH IN NANOTECHNOLOGY

Nanomaterials

Dimensions affect electrical, optical, magnetic, mechanical, and chemical properties. Nanostructure manipulation allows for new and improved materials. New engineering materials like polymer clay Nano composites are lightweight, recyclable, and stronger than reinforced plastics. Weight reduction improves fuel economy, hence structural material advancements are crucial for transportation. Manufacturing and recycling can be safer and greener with other advancements. Future composites may have smart materials that can predict failure or self-repair.

Sensors power most modern control systems. Autos employ many sensors for engine management, emissions control, security, safety, comfort, vehicle monitoring, and diagnostics. Nanosensors have unparalleled speed and sensitivity, sometimes detecting single molecules. Carbon nanotube, silicon, and other semiconductor nanowires are very sensitive to chemical and biological contaminants. Attaching compounds that locally alter the electron band structure to the surface changes nanowire current (Taher-Uz-Zaman et al., 2014). Charge-induced current fluctuations can identify specific species attached to the nanowire surface by sensor molecules. Many sensor systems use this approach. New ultra-sensitive and specialized sensors are useful. A sensor that can detect a few malignant cells would be a significant advance.

Nanomaterials remove heavy metals and other contaminants from industrial wastewater. Economic water desalination and purification could be nanotechnology's biggest influence on the world's population (Nau, 2009). Nanomaterials will likely be used in fuel cells, energy biotransformation, food bioprocessing, waste mending, and pollution control. Nanoparticles' small size and new features have raised health and environmental concerns. Ultrafine particles like copier toner, combustion engine carbon, and industry soot damage respiratory and cardiovascular systems in humans and animals. Health authorities are monitoring carbon nanotubes, buckyballs, and cadmium selenide quantum dots. Sunscreen titanium oxide nanoparticle absorption studies are also proposed. Nanoparticle toxicity, transport, and fate in ecosystems and the environment have not been well studied. Controversial early animal trials included the administration of extraordinarily high nanoparticle doses that killed numerous individuals.

Possibilities in Future

Nanotechnology is lighter, more fuel-efficient, and uses less energy than traditional materials and manufacturing. It could produce strong, programmable materials. Nanocoatings on opaque and translucent surfaces resist corrosion, abrasion, and radiation. Nanoscale electrical, magnetic, and mechanical devices and systems with extraordinary data processing, chemical, photochemical, and biological sensors for cover, health care, manufacturing, and the environment are routinely made. A novel photoelectric material for low-cost solar panels. Molecular-semiconductor hybrid devices could power the next information revolution. Health, safety, quality of life, and environmental protection have huge potential.

Nanotechnology benefits require overcoming significant difficulties. Scientists must master atom manipulation and characterization. Nanoscale material characteristics and structure demand new and improved technologies. Computer simulation of atomic and molecular structures must be much improved to comprehend this subject. Next, new tools and methods are needed to organize atoms and molecules into nanoscale systems and then into more complicated things. Nanotechnology products must increase performance and save money. Finally, nanoscale items cannot take advantage of their unique qualities without being integrated with microscale and macroscale (one millionth of a meter to millimeter scale) systems. Not easy.

Pioneers

Pioneers reached many technical accomplishments. Molecular beam epitaxy was invented by Alfred Cho and John Arthur at Bell Labs in 1968 and improved in the 1970s to deposit single atomic layers. This tool nanostructured one-dimensionally as atomic layers increased. Since then, compound semiconductor device fabrication relies on it. For compact disc players, utilizing nanostructures and sandwiching a 1-nanometer-thick layer of non-magnetic sensor material between the magnetic layers of a computer disk drive will boost storage capacity. We have an energy-efficient semiconductor laser for this.

NANOSCALE PROPERTIES

Electronic and photonic behavior

Solid-state electronics has long employed quantum mechanical features to confine electrons in one dimension. Electrons (or "holes" if electron charges are missing) can be confined to quantum wells in semiconductor devices because they grow in thin layers of differing compositions. Resonant tunneling diodes use a thin layer with a wider energy bandgap to limit charge flow to conditions that can "tunnel" these barriers. A superlattice is a periodic structure of repeating wells with new selection rules that impact charge flow. Far-infrared cascade lasers use superlattices. Semiconductor lasers use quantum wells to achieve particular wavelengths and high efficiency in modern telecommunications.

Photon propagation alters as the transient structure approaches visible light wavelength (400-800 nanometers). Quantum mechanical rules limit photon propagation through a cyclically changing permittivity (such as a semiconductor post surrounded by air) according to their energy (wavelength). This new behavior resembles quantum mechanical laws that govern electron travel through a crystal, giving the semiconductor a bandgap. In one dimension, compound semiconductor superlattices are epitaxially grown in alternating layers with variable permittivity, creating a highly reflecting mirror for wavelengths determined by the repetition distance of the layers. To do. These devices provide "built-in" mirrors for communications-related vertical resonator surface emitting lasers. Photonic crystals in 2D and 3D govern photon propagation.

Photonic crystals have been studied in 2D hexagonal arrays of compound semiconductor posts and log arrays of stacked 3D silicon bars. At visible and near-infrared wavelengths, these structures are hundreds of nanometers (Kuykendall, 1999). Photonic crystal properties based on nanostructured materials can confine, steer, and separate light at each wavelength on an unprecedented scale and create lasers with almost no threshold. As nanostructured material techniques improve, these structures are extensively studied. Infrared wavelengths attract researchers. Because of visible wavelengths, infrared wavelengths are less stringent, and optical communications and chemical sensors inspire new uses.

Magnetic, mechanical, and chemical behavior

Nanomaterials have size-dependent magnetic, mechanical, and chemical characteristics. Magnetic nanoclusters have one magnetic domain and one "giant" spin due to the firmly bonded magnetic spins of every atom. I will. At normal temperature, ferromagnetic iron particle giant spins spin freely with a diameter of less than 16 nanometers. It's superparamagnetism. Nanostructured materials are strong. A 2 nanometer aluminum oxide precipitate in a pure nickel thin film boosts yield strength from 0.15 gigapascals to 5 gigapascals. More than double hard steel. Carbon nanotubes have tremendous strength and stiffness along their vertical axis.

Nanoscale material changes are caused by surface dominance. Properties like electrical transport are no longer dictated by the solid bulk phenomenon because up to half of nanoparticle atoms are surface atoms. Due to their high surface atom content, nanostructured atoms have a greater average energy than bigger ones. Catalyst materials minimize catalyst size on a nanoscale, increasing chemical activity per atom on the exposed surface. Defects and impurities are drawn to surfaces and interfaces, and particle interaction at these small dimensions can depend on the surface's chemical connections. Molecular monolayers affect surface characteristics and nanoparticle interactions.

All biology depends on surface-molecular interaction. Biotechnology and nanotechnology can create new nanostructure functions and features. Biology carefully controls function using structure and chemical forces in this surface-interface-dominated environment. Interfaces that establish nanoscale behavior include gene transcription and biological activities that recognize complex substances. Atomic power and chemical bonding dominate, while macroscopic phenomena like convection, turbulence, and momentum (inertial force) have little effect.

BIOMEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE

Drug Delivery

Nanotechnology will change healthcare. First, nanoscale particle design and production provide new medicine transport and therapy alternatives. Over half of new medications developed each year are not water-soluble, making delivery difficult. as nano-sized particles, these medications may be carried easily and administered as pills.

Nanotechnology can transport pharmaceuticals to the right place in the body and release doses on time for best treatment. A nano-sized carrier that distributes the medicine slowly or when activated is a frequent method. These nanoscale carriers can also bind to malignant tumors to locate illness areas. These applications favor organic dendrimers. Dendrimers enter and exit the hollow central area. These spherical "fuzzballs" are similar in size to proteins but cannot expand. The capacity to change cavity size and chemistry to retain various therapeutic molecules makes dendrimers appealing. Researchers hope to build dendrimers that swell and release medications when exposed to disease-targeting chemicals. Other nanoparticles have been studied using this drug delivery method.

Gold-coated nanoshells can absorb light of different wavelengths. In particular, infrared rays gently heat capsules to release medicinal ingredients. Antibodies can be applied to the shell's outer gold surface to precisely bind to tumor cells, reducing harm to adjacent healthy cells.

Assistive devices and tissue engineering

Nanotechnology is also used in biomedical equipment for people with disabilities. Researchers hope to create retinal implants for visually impaired patients. A photodetector array chip implanted in the retina sends a signal to the brain via the optic nerve. Even basic geographical information helps the sight handicapped. Designing hybrid systems that interface inorganic technology with biological systems is difficult in such research.

Nanoscale neural probes in brain tissue activate and govern motor function in related investigations. "Wiring" numerous electrodes to neurons demands stability and effectiveness. It's amazing because movement problem patients can regain control. Electrical nerve stimulation of damaged spinal cords has showed motor recovery. Bone, skin, and cartilage regeneration are also being studied. For instance, synthetic biocompatible or biodegradable structures containing nano-sized holes that act as templates for tissue regeneration and deliver substances to aid repair. Researchers want to construct nanoscale or microscale machines to repair, support, or replace complex organs.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Semiconductor scientists claim quantum processes like "tunneling," in which electrons jump out of a circuit channel and generate atomic-scale interference between devices, lead "traditional" electronic circuits to shrink. I'll push it. For further progress, data storage and processing will need a completely new paradigm. Quantum and biomolecular computing could create a revolutionary system.

Mark Ratner of Northwestern University and Avi Aviram of IBM proposed using molecules in electronic devices in the 1970s, but nanotechnology techniques were not available until the 21st century. Wiring 0.5-nanometer-wide and several-nanometer-long molecules is difficult, because electrical transmission across a single molecule is poorly understood. Groups demonstrated molecular switches. Computer memory or logic arrays could use it. Mechanisms for choosing molecules, nanoscale gate topologies, and 3-terminal molecules with transistor-like behavior are current study fields. DNA computing uses complementary strand interactions to solve problems using single-stranded DNA on a silicon device. I will. Organic thin film transistors and illuminants, related to molecular electronics, promise wallpaper and video displays like flexible electronic newspapers.

Carbon nanotubes are extraordinary electronic, mechanical, and chemically. Nanotubes are metals or semiconductors depending on their diameter and carbon atom bonding. The ideal nanotube has ballistic electrical conductivity (no scattering) and minimum heat dissipation. Nanowires, formed from nanotubes, can carry more current than comparable metal wires. Silicon semiconductor devices' gates are around one-hundredth the width of 1.4-nanometer nanotubes. Combining metal and semiconductor carbon nanotubes produces conducting nanowires, transistors, diodes, and basic logic circuits. Silicon nanowires are used to make field effect transistors, bipolar transistors, inverters, light emitting diodes, sensors, and basic memory. Nanowire circuits, like molecular electronics, must connect and integrate components into a high-density design. The construction should expand and be assembled. Crossbar architecture, which integrates wires and electronics, is intriguing.

The energy needed to add an electron to a "small island" (isolated physical region) over a tunnel barrier is critical at nanoscale. This energy change enables a single electron transistor. Nanostructures of various single-electron devices can be easily created at low temperatures, and restricted electron flow structures have been extensively studied. For reliable operation at room temperature, lower the size to 1 nanometer. Today's integrated circuits require relatively consistent architectures to retain uniform device properties. I am. This and many other nanodevices lack gain, limiting their use in large electrical circuits.

Spintronics use carrier charge and spin to accomplish logical processes. Electron spin-up or spin-down states can transport or store information. This emerging field studies spin-polarized carrier injection, transport, and detection. The spin injection process, the expansion of latest ferromagnetic semiconductors with nanoscale control, and the possibility of manipulating spins with nanostructured features are all intriguing.

NANOFABRICATION

Two distinct paths are taken. The top-down strategy seeks to miniaturize current technology, while the bottom-up strategy is to construct more complicated molecular devices atom by atom. Top-down assembly creates long-range ordered structures and macroscopic linkages, while bottom-up assembly creates nanoscale order. Top-down and bottom-up technologies should provide the greatest nanofabrication tools. Nanotechnology demands new production and measurement tools.

Short-wavelength lithography patterning is the most prevalent top-down production method. Top-down integrated circuit manufacturing eliminates assembly by patterning and placing pieces. Short-wavelength optical lithography is below 100 nanometers, the usual nanoscale threshold. Has reached. Short-wavelength light sources like severe ultraviolet and X-rays allow lithographic printing to reach 10 to 100 nanometers. Electron beam lithography can produce 20-nanometer patterns. Sweeping a precisely focused electron beam over the surface creates the pattern. Focused ion beams may directly process and print wafers but have lesser resolution than electron beam lithography. Scanners can deposit or remove thin layers for smaller characteristics.

Nanoscale imprinting, stamping, and molding have reached 20-40 nanometers. In one form, the stamp surface is covered with a very thin coating of substance ("ink") that can be deposited directly on the surface to recreate the stamp pattern. Stamping an ink of thiol-functionalized organic molecules directly onto a gold-coated surface can pattern molecular monolayers. Gold-binds strongly). Mechanically stamping the pattern into a thin substance is another method. The stamping process heats this polymeric surface layer to soften it for molding. Plasma etching removes a thin masking layer under the imprinted area. Thus, a nanoscale lithography pattern remains after all polymers are removed. Another method is to use optical or electron beam lithography to build a relief pattern from a photoresist on a silicon wafer, then pour a liquid precursor like polydimethylsiloxane (silicone) onto the pattern and cure it. A rubbery stamp can be removed. These stamps can be printed with ink or pressed to capillary the liquid polymer into the mask's raised portions. It cures when poured in. Flexible stamps can print nanoscale details on curved surfaces.

Bottom-up or self-organizing nanofabrication uses nanoscale chemical or physical forces to combine basic components into larger structures. Bottom-up technology complements top-down technology increasingly as nanofabrication components get smaller. The bottom-up technique is inspired by nature's utilization of chemical forces to build all life's structures. Researchers want to replicate atom clustering. Self-organization and complexity result.

Quantum dots self-organize with little control over formation and organization. By developing a thin layer of indium gallium arsenide (InGaAs) on GaAs, the compressive strain creates isolated quantum dots. After two layers, dots are evenly spaced. Carbon nanotubes self-assemble under certain chemical and temperature conditions.

DNA-assisted assembly may enable hybrid heterogeneous device integration. Biology excels at self-organization in a fluid environment with mild electrochemical influences. Surface molecules may direct fluid attachments via DNA-like recognition. Polymers constructed of complementary DNA strands are employed as intelligent "adhesive tapes" that only stick when paired. DNA-assisted methods are advantageous. DNA molecules can be sequenced and copied in vast quantities, and hybridized DNA strands create strong bonds to complementary sequences. Labels numerous devices. These features are being studied for nanoscale molecule self-assembly. DNA sequences that connect only to compound semiconductor crystal planes enable self-organization. Creating certain faces of microscopic semiconductor building blocks that connect or repel each other requires the precise complimentary sequence at the opposite end of a DNA molecule. Molecular ends with thiol groups attach to gold, while carboxyl groups connect to silica. Directed assemblies, a form of self-organization, put parts physically, electrically, or magnetically in a quasi-equilibrium environment.

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