

Nano in My Life

To put that into perspective...

What is Nanotechnology?

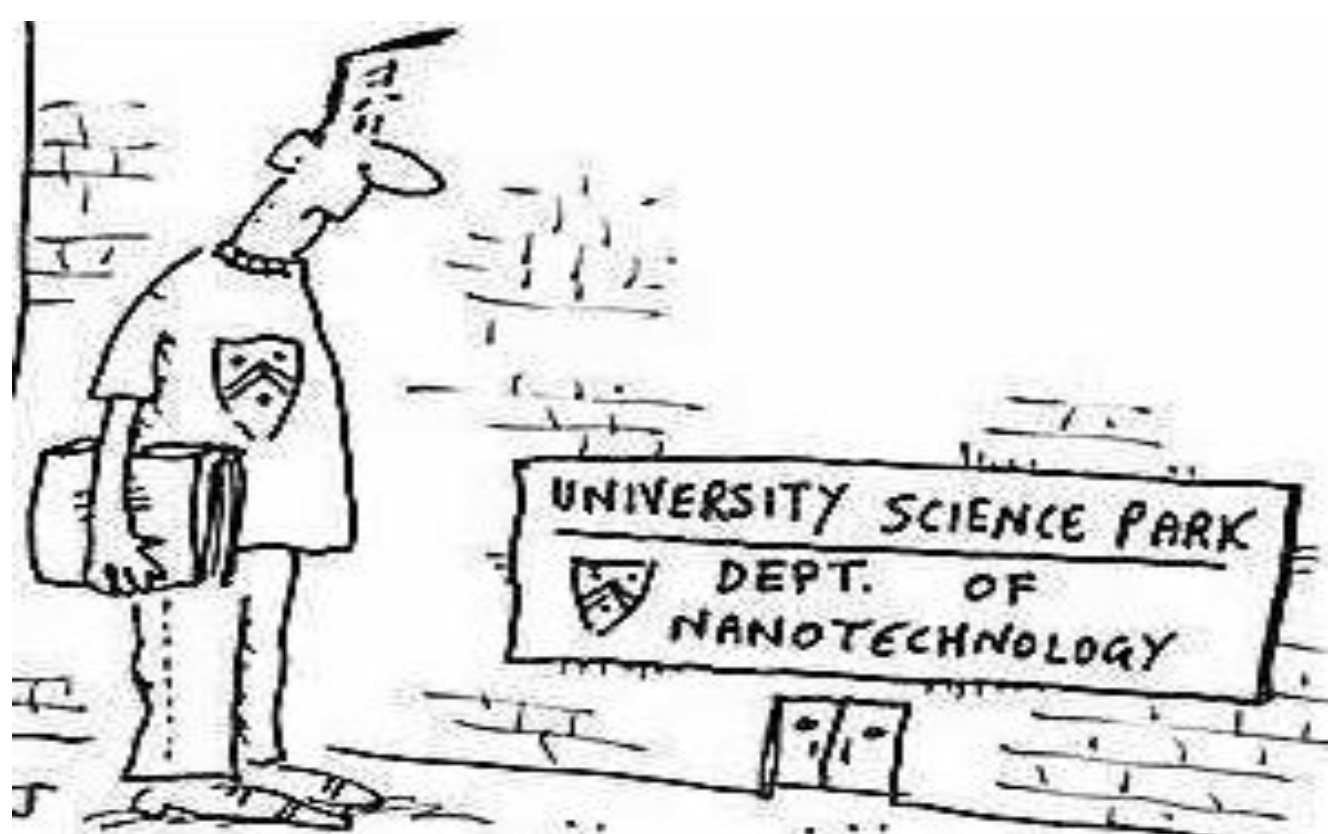
Nanotechnology is the study of very small things- less than 100 nanometres in size.

One nanometre is one billionth of a metre...

A human hair is about 50,000 nanometres wide...

The human eye can only see down to 10,000 nanometres.

To put it another way, a nanometer is the amount a man's beard grows in the time it takes him to lift a razor to his face.

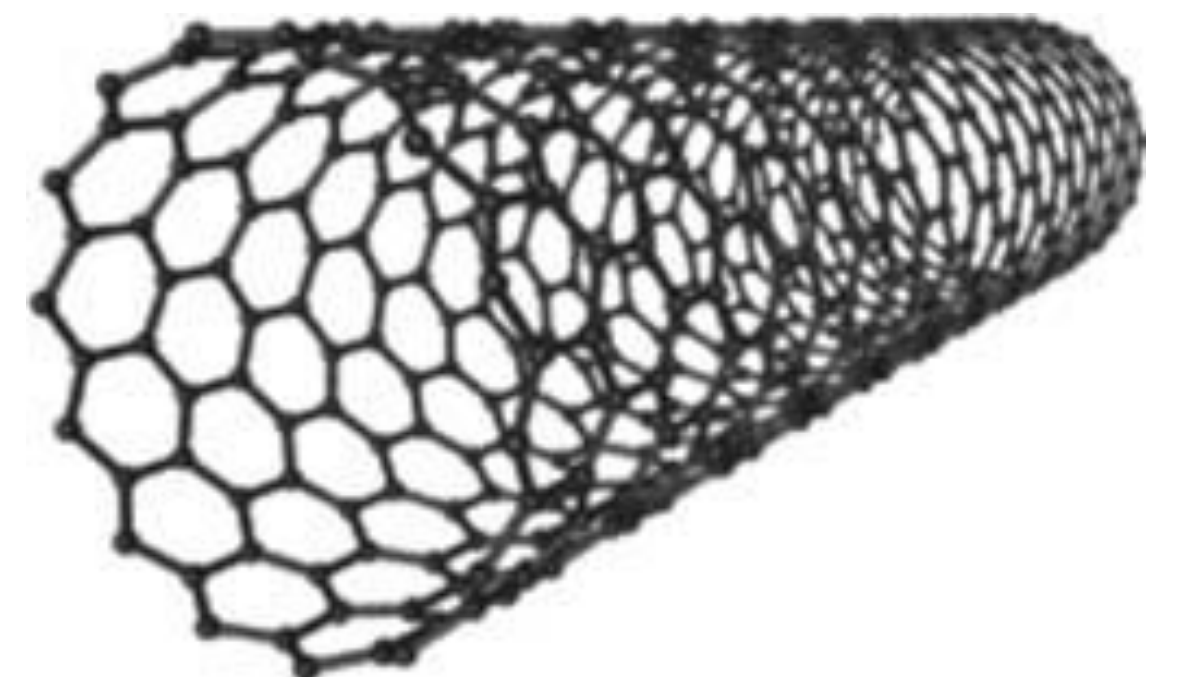


The Nano Revolution

Nanotechnology revolutionizing every part of our lives from medicine, cosmetics, clothes, phones, laptops and many more.

The nanotube is the cornerstone of nanotechnology.

The carbon nanotubes are stronger than steel wires, can carry 1000 times more electricity than copper wires and can support 1 million times their own weight.



Nanomedicine

Nanotechnology shows great potential for medicine. It could help in the diagnoses and treatment of many diseases including cancer and even blindness.



Communication

Nanotechnology has already crept into many of our computers, phones and other devices making them lighter stronger and more efficient and will continue to make everything we use smaller and faster.



Machinery and Sport

Airplanes benefit from the light weight materials nanotechnology provide. It also effects many sporting goods like bikes, golf clubs, F1 cars and so on.



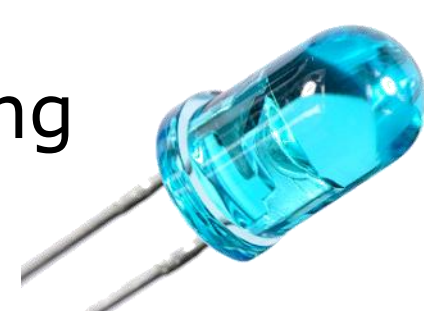
Cosmetics and Clothes

Sunscreen that doesn't leave a white mark on your skin and clothes that don't stain are now possible.



Energy

Using LEDs (light-emitting diodes) instead of light bulbs could reduce energy consumption.



Solar nanostructures will replace glass panels and can even be embedded into phones and laptops.



But in nature nanotechnology is not new.

The different colours seen on butterfly wings are due to the nano-sized crystals on them.

Gecko lizards can climb walls and hang from ceilings due to the 'nano' properties of the hairs on their feet.

