

# 11.2.4 Early beginning and development (Not for examination)

## 2004

2D material was isolated and characterized in 2004 by Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov at the University of Manchester. This work won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2010.

## 1981

Gerd Binning and Heinrich Rohrer developed the scanning tunnelling microscope (STM), that modern nanotechnology began. The STM allowed researchers to view atoms on the surface of materials for the first time ever, and since then nanotechnology began its gradual growth.

# 1974

While working on the development of ultra-precision machines, Professor Norio Taniguchi coined the term nanotechnology.

## 2016

Jean-Pierre Sauvage, J. Fraser
Stoddart, and Bernard Feringa won
the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for
their research in developing
Nano-scale machines including a
'nanocar'

# 1990's - 2000's

Research groups and commitees were formed to drive nano-related research. Consumer products making use of nanotechnology began appearing in the marketplace.

## 1989

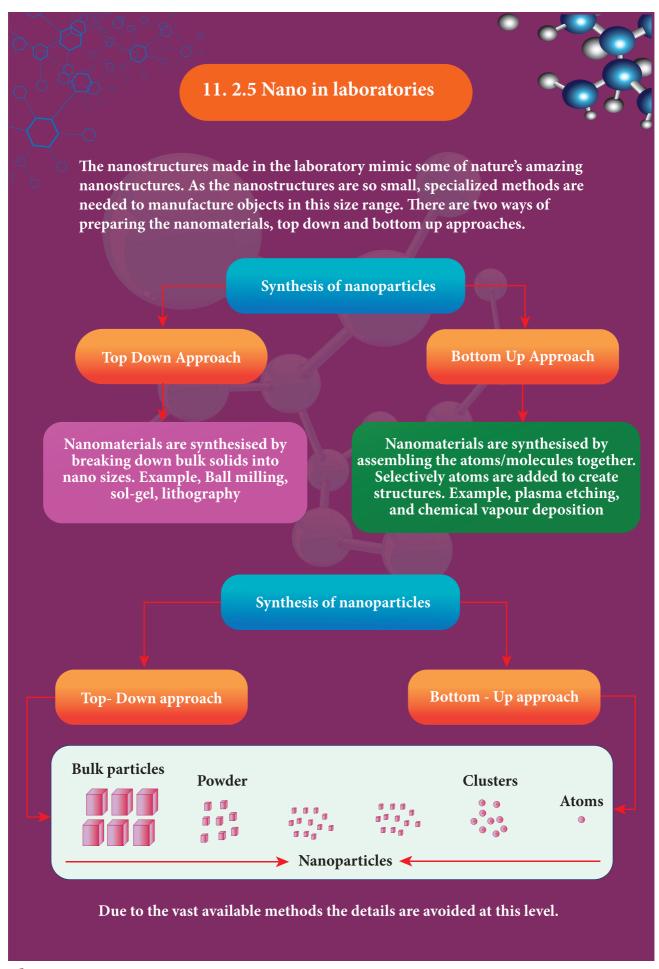
Don Eigler and Erhard Schweizer at IBM's Almaden Research Center manipulated 35 individual xenon atoms to spell out the IBM logo. This demonstration of the ability to precisely manipulate atoms ushered in the applied use of nanotechnology.

# 1959

The ideas that define nanoscience and nanotechnology were mentioned long before the terms were coined, in a lecture by American physicist Richard Feynman "There's plenty of Room at the Bottom" in 1959. Feynman described processes that would allow scientists to manipulate and control individual atoms and molecules.

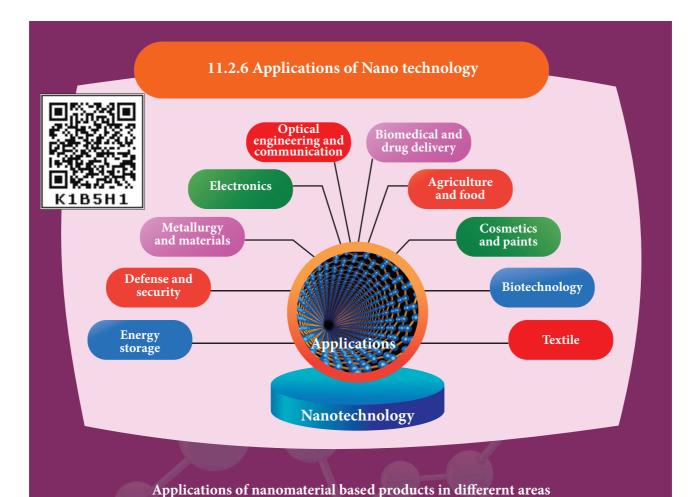
UNIT 11 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PHYSICS











### **Automotive industry**

- Lightweight construction
- Painting (fillers, base coat, clear coat)
- Catalysts
- Tires (fillers)
- Sensors
- Coatings for windscreen and car bodies

## Chemical industry

- Fillers for paint systems
- Coating systems based on nanocomposites
- Impregnation of papers
- Switchable adhesives
- Magnetic fluids

### Engineering

- Wear protection for tools and machines (anti blocking coatings, scratch resistant coatings on plastic parts, etc.)
- Lubricant-free bearings

### **Electronic industry**

- Data memory
- Displays
- Laser diodes
- Glass fibres
- Optical switches
- Filters (IR-blocking)
- Conductive, antistatic coatings

#### Construction

- Construction materials
- Thermal insulation
- Flame retardants
- Surface-functionalised building materials for wood, floors, stone, facades, tiles, roof tiles, etc.
- Facade coatings
- Groove mortar

#### Medicine

- Drug delivery systems
- Active agents
- Contrast medium
- Medical rapid tests
- Prostheses and implants
- Antimicrobial agents and coatings
- Agents in cancer therapy





## Textile/fabrics/ non-wovens

- Surface-processed textiles
- Smart clothes

## Energy

- Fuel cells
- Solar cells
- Batteries
- Capacitors

#### Cosmetics

- Sun protection
- Lipsticks
- Skin creams
- Tooth paste

#### Food and drinks

- Package materials
- Storage life sensors
- Additives
- Clarification of fruit juices

#### Household

- Ceramic coatings for irons
- Odors catalyst
- Cleaner for glass, ceramic, floor, windows

#### Sports/ outdoor

- Ski wax
- Antifogging of glasses/goggles
- Antifouling coatings for ships/boats
- Reinforced tennis rackets and balls

## 11.2.7 Possible harmful effects of nanoparticles

The research on the harmful impact of application of nanotechnology is also equally important and fast developing. The major concern here is that the nanoparticles have the dimensions same as that of the biological molecules such as proteins. They may easily get absorbed onto the surface of living organisms and they might enter the tissues and fluids of the body.

The adsorbing nature depends on the surface of the nanoparticle. Indeed, it is possible to deliver a drug directly to a specific cell in the body by designing the surface of a nanoparticle so that it adsorbs specifically onto the surface of the target cell.

The interaction with living systems is also affected by the dimensions of the nanoparticles. For instance, nanoparticles of a few nanometers size may reach well inside biomolecules, which is not possible for larger nanoparticles. Nanoparticles can also cross cell membranes. It is also possible for the inhaled nanoparticles to reach the blood, to reach other sites such as the liver, heart or blood cells.

Researchers are trying to understand the response of living organisms to the presence of nanoparticles of varying size, shape, chemical composition and surface characteristics.







