Nano-Related Effects

- Switching 1.
 - 2. **Motors**
 - Sensing 3.
 - 4. Percolation
 - 5. Actuators
 - 6. Quantum effects
 - 7. Energy conversion
 - 8. **Energy storage**
 - controlled uptake & release 9.
 - 10. Self cleaning
 - 11. Self assembly
 - 12. Proximity effects

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Nano Composites



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Phonon Engineering

Scattering on lattice vibrations is the most fundamental impairment to the performance of high speed electronic and optoelectronic devices.

Spatial confinement of phonons in nanostructures can strongly affect the phonon spectrum and modify phonon properties such as phonon group velocity, polarization, density of states and electron phonon interaction.

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Quantum Antidots

Electron micrograph of an antidot lattice [from K. Ensslin, ETH Zürich]. The lattice is a periodic array of holes "drilled" in a two-dimensional electron gas.

Electrons traveling through the lattice essentially behave as classical billard balls that experience random kicks at the holes.

However, at subkelvin temperatures the wave nature of the electron becomes important. In this regime one finds periodic oscillations in the magnetotransport through the antidot

magnetotransport through the antidot lattices.



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Molecular Magnets

Molecular magnets are systems where a <u>permanent magnetization</u> and <u>magnetic</u> <u>hysteresis</u> can be achieved (although usually at extremely low <u>temperatures</u>) not through a three-dimensional <u>magnetic ordering</u>, but as a purely one-<u>molecule</u> phenomenon.

The requisites for such a system are: a high <u>spin ground state</u> a high <u>zero-field-splitting</u> (due to high magnetic <u>anisotropy</u>)



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<u>Molecular Machines</u>



Examples of non-directionally controlled molecular rotors. a, A molecular rotor (left) where hindrance to rotation of the central phenyl ring (the rotor) is removed by the upper and lower bulky molecular end units (the stators). Suffi cient spacing for the phenyl rings is generated to allow fast rotation in the solid state as illustrated for two rotor units (right).

b, An electrochemically driven rotor where the upper and lower carborane (polyhedral clusters comprising boron and carbon atoms) moieties are bound as ligands to a nickel ion functioning as a 'ball-bearing'. Oxidation and reduction of the nickel centre (the Ni3+ / Ni4+ redox cycle) leads to rotation of the upper ligand relative to the lower ligand, changing the relative position of the alkyl groups (R1-4) attached to the carborane ligands.

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Molecular Valves

. NESPER ETH ZÜRICH & COLLEGIUM HELVETICUN

Two approaches to the opening and closing of nanovalves using molecular switches. a, A light-actuated nanovalve based on a mechano-sensitive channel protein modifi ed with spiropyran photoswitches. When ultraviolet light is shone on the protein, the molecular switch is converted from its neutral, hydrophobic, form to a charged polar form. The change in hydrophobicity in the channel results in the channel opening. Visible light reverses the process and closes the channel again.

b, Photochemical allosteric control of a glutamatesensitive protein channel based on the azobenzene molecular switch. The switching unit is not incorporated in the channel itself but instead is located on the outside of the channel protein. Light of different color switches the system forth and back.



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Brownian Rachet



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http://monet.unibas.ch/~elmer/bm/

The Brownian ratchet exploits particle diffusion by using a series of gated compartments. In part a of the figure, a small particle (green) diffuses in a compartment until it hits a one-way gate that is controlled by a spring-loaded hinge. If the collision is sufficiently energetic, the gate opens instantaneously and allows the particle to pass into the next compartment. The one-way gate prevents the return of the particle to the previous compartment. In part b,a larger particle (blue) diffuses more slowly and has a much lower probability of hitting the gate with enough force to enter the next compartment. In this example, the asymmetry (a critical element of Brownian ratchets) is the different behaviour of the two particle types within the same type of compartment.By starting with a mixture of small and large particles (see c), the two types will separate over time.Eventually,all or nearly all of the small particles will end up in the last compartment while very few of the large particles will move at all.

genänlische



Size and Stability

Clausius-Clapeyron: size dependency of phase transition temperature



where dP/dT is the slope of the coexistence curve, *L* is the <u>latent heat</u>, *T* is the <u>temperature</u>, and ΔV is the <u>volume</u> change of the phase transition.

Optimal size (Alivisatos) – largest hysteresis of phase transformation for nano size







Quantum Size Effects in Semiconductors







Proximity Effect



is a special type of particle scattering which occurs at interfaces between superconductors or superconductor-normal metal interfaces. In such a reflection process an electronic excitation incident on the interface is retro-reflected and converted into a hole and vice versa.

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hν

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Photonic Surface Plasmons

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basis for a new type of photonics, one based on metallic materials rather than the traditional dielectric and semiconducting materials that dominate present day photonics technology. Metallic photonic materials demonstrate unique properties due to the existence on metals of electromagnetic surface waves known as surface plasmons. Surface plasmons are set to become part of the photonics revolution in which the interaction between light and matter is controlled by producing patterned structures that are periodic on the scale of the wavelength of light. Surface plasmons open up a wealth of new possibilities for photonics because they allow the concentration and propagation of light below the usual resolution limit, thus opening up such possibilities as sub-wavelength optical components.

nm range

Light energy guiding below wave length threshold

Mie theory (1908), Vollmer&Kreibing 1995

20nm particles of Au, Ag, Cu have plasmon frequncies of 520nm, 380 nm and 560 nm





Alignment of anisotropic Nanoparticles Composite 700nm organic matrix / mould organic + α–FeOOH b **BaCrO**₄ J.Webb, D.J. Macey, S. Mann in S. Mann, J.Webb, R.J.P.Williams **Biomineralization**, VCH 1989 istry









Vesicle networks

 $\stackrel{\odot}{\underset{}_{\leftrightarrow}}$ in an observation period of 3 weeks 5 divisions have been observed \ldots

very soft bonding

• slow and very sensible 02.11.2006 Information system







Tandem Cell for Water Cleavage

Based on two photosystems connected in series as shown in the electron flow diagram: A thin film of nanocrystalline tungsten trioxide, WO₃ (ref. 34), or Fe_2O_3 (ref. 35) serves as the top electrode absorbing the blue part of the solar spectrum. The valenceband holes (h+) created by band-gap excitation of the film oxidizewater to oxygen:

$4h^+ + H_2O \Rightarrow O_2 + 4H^+$

and the conduction-band electrons are fed into the second photosystem consisting of the dye-sensitized nanocrystalline TiO₂ cell discussed above. The latter is placed directly under the WO3 film, capturing the green and red part of the solar spectrum that is transmitted through the top electrode. The photovoltage generated by the second photosystem enables hydrogen to be generated by the conductionband electrons.

$$4H^+ + 4e^- \Rightarrow 2H_2$$

The overall reaction corresponds to the splitting of water by visible light. There is close analogy to the 'Zscheme' (named for the shape of the flow diagram) that operates in photosynthesis. In green plants, there are also two photosystems connected in series, one that oxidizes water to oxygen and the other generating the compound NADPH used in fixation of carbon dioxide.



Research and technology needs

Higher production yields, lowering

of cost and energy content

complexity

production

Lower manufacturing cost and

Lower production costs, increase production volume and stability

Replace indium (too expensive and limited supply), replace CdS window layer, scale up production

Improve efficiency and high-

temperature stability, scale up

Reduce materials cost, scale up

Improve stability and efficiency

Grätzel, M. The artificial leaf, bio-mimetic photocatalysis. Cattech 3, 3-17 (1999). 02.11.2006 Nanochemistry UIO

Present Solar Cells - Comparison

Module 10-15

9-12

7

12

Type of cell Efficiency (%)* Cell Crystalline silicon 24 18 Multicrystalline silicon Amorphous silicon 13 CulnSe, 19 10-11 7 Dye-sensitized nanostructured materials Bipolar AlGaAs/Si 19-20 photoelectrochemical cells Organic solar cells 2-3

*Efficiency defined as conversion efficiency from solar to electrical power.

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Investigation of Grain Boundaries





Battery with Porous Electrodes











Supercaps (Doppelschichtkondensatoren)





idgenössisch wiss Federal I









