

Nanotechnology

The Next Big Thing, or Much Ado about Nothing?

Andrew D. Maynard

Chief Science Advisor, Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (in partnership with the Pew Charitable Trusts)

The
art and science
of building stuff
that does stuff
at the nanometer scale

Richard Smalley

Smallness



Human-scale

Nano-scale

Twinkie

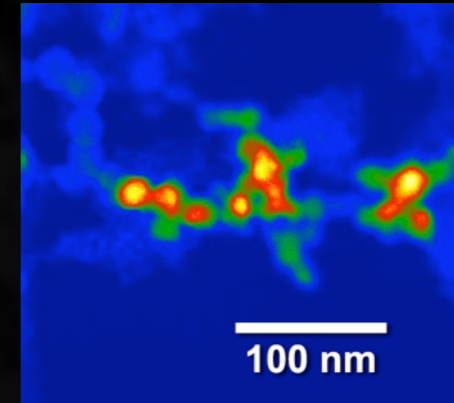
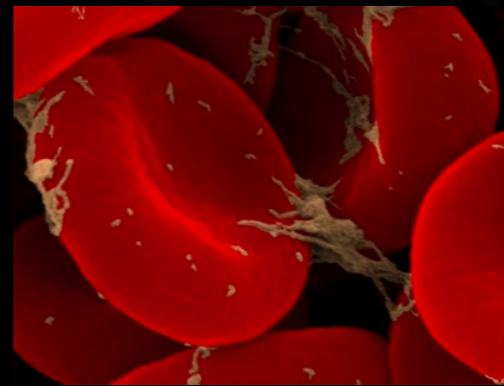
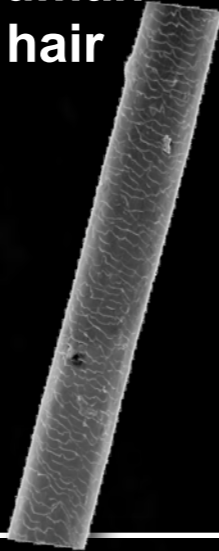
Pin-head

Human hair

Red Blood Cell

Welding fume

DNA



10 cm

1 cm

1 mm

100 μ m

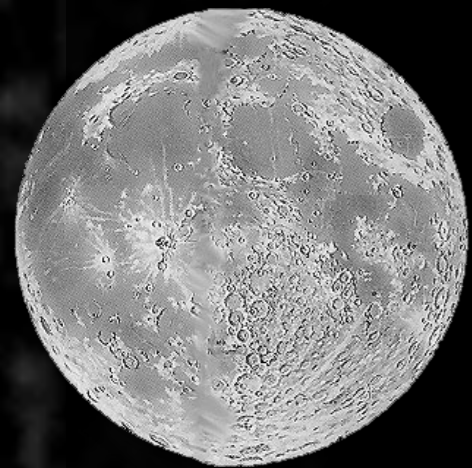
10 μ m

1 μ m

100 nm

10 nm

1 nm



Relative sizes

Cats & Dogs

Picasso



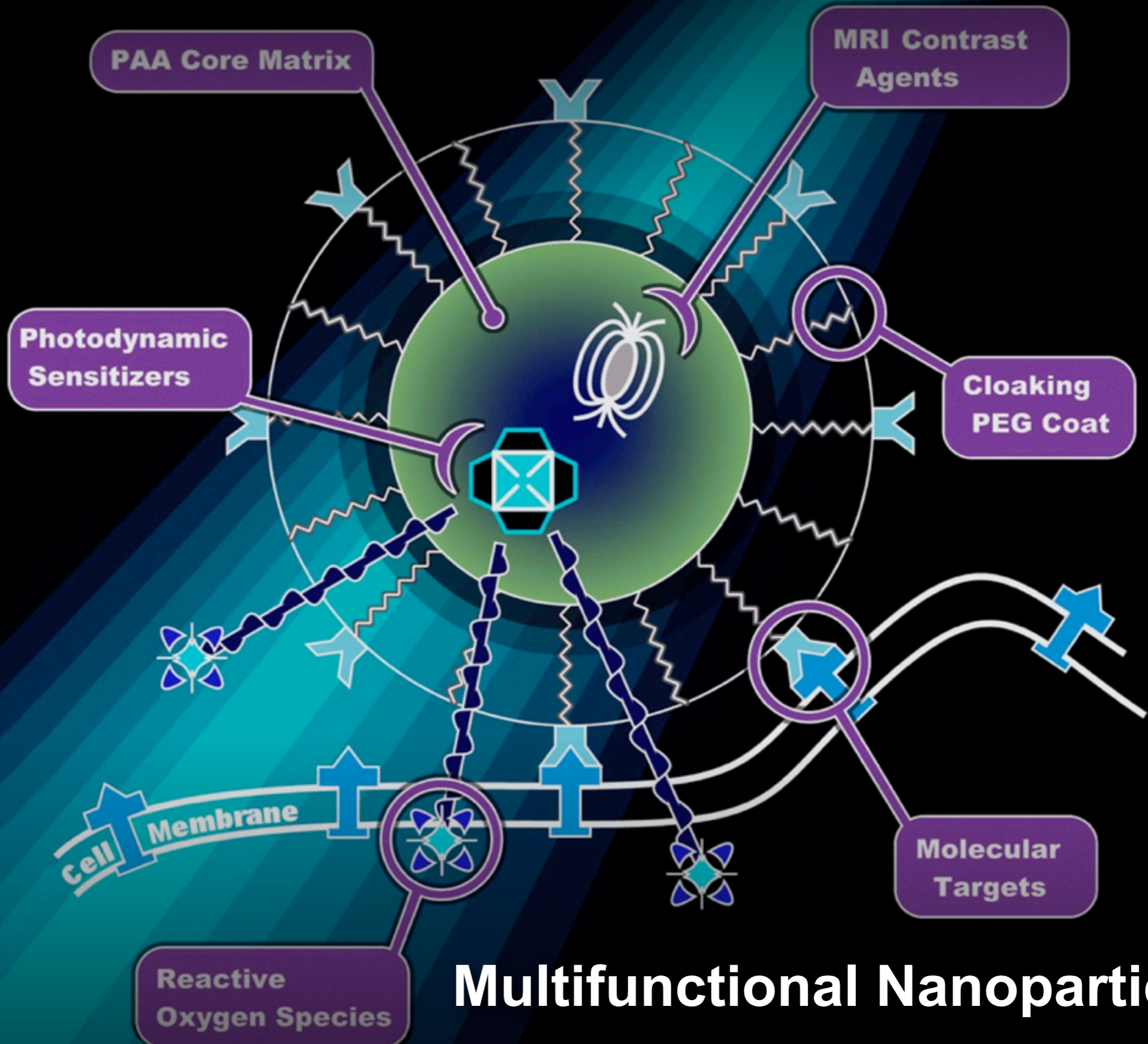
Sophistication





Nathan Sawaya

Figures are from a traveling exhibit - contact Nathan Sawaya for further details, at info@brickartist.com

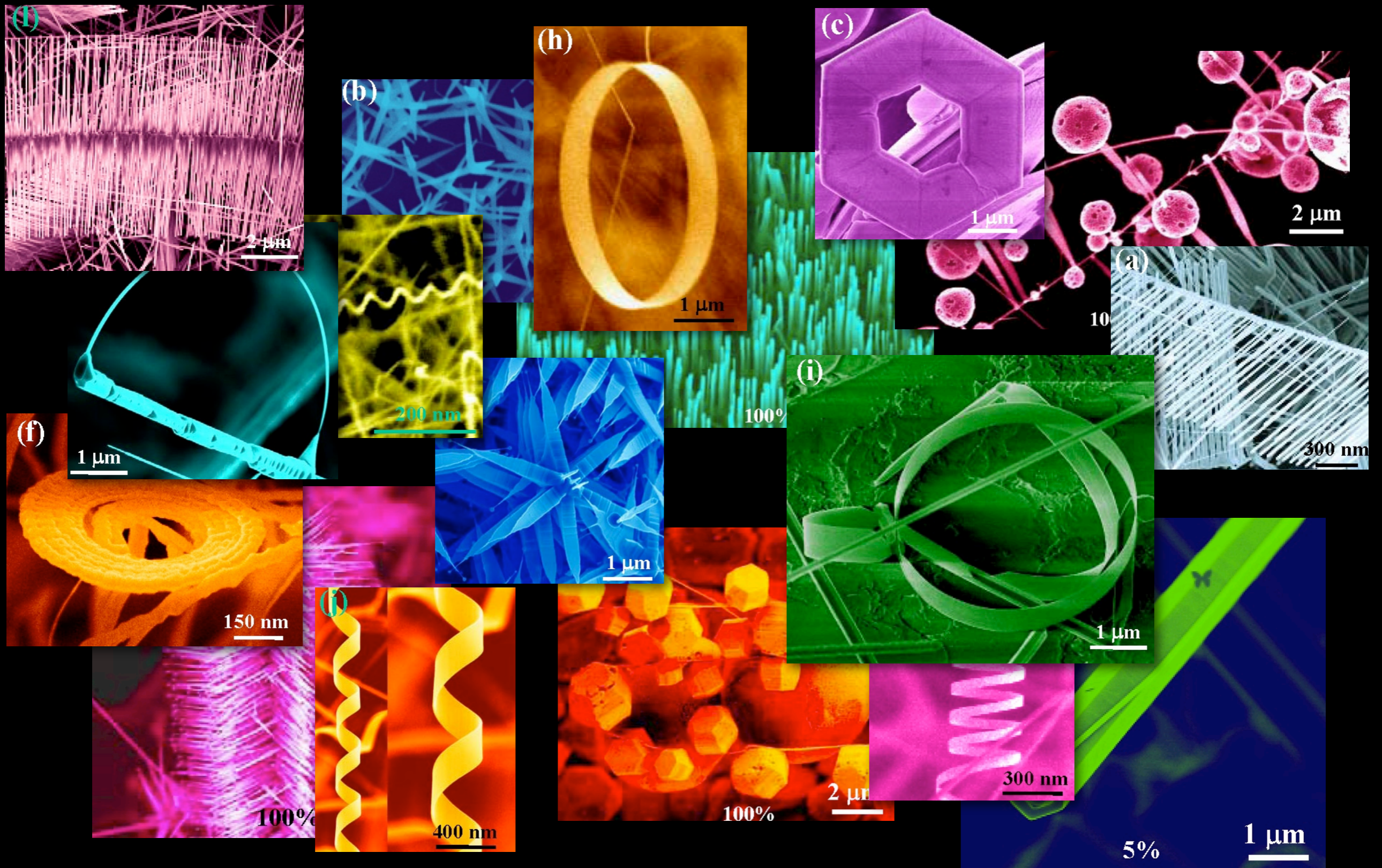


Multifunctional Nanoparticles

Similar Chemistry



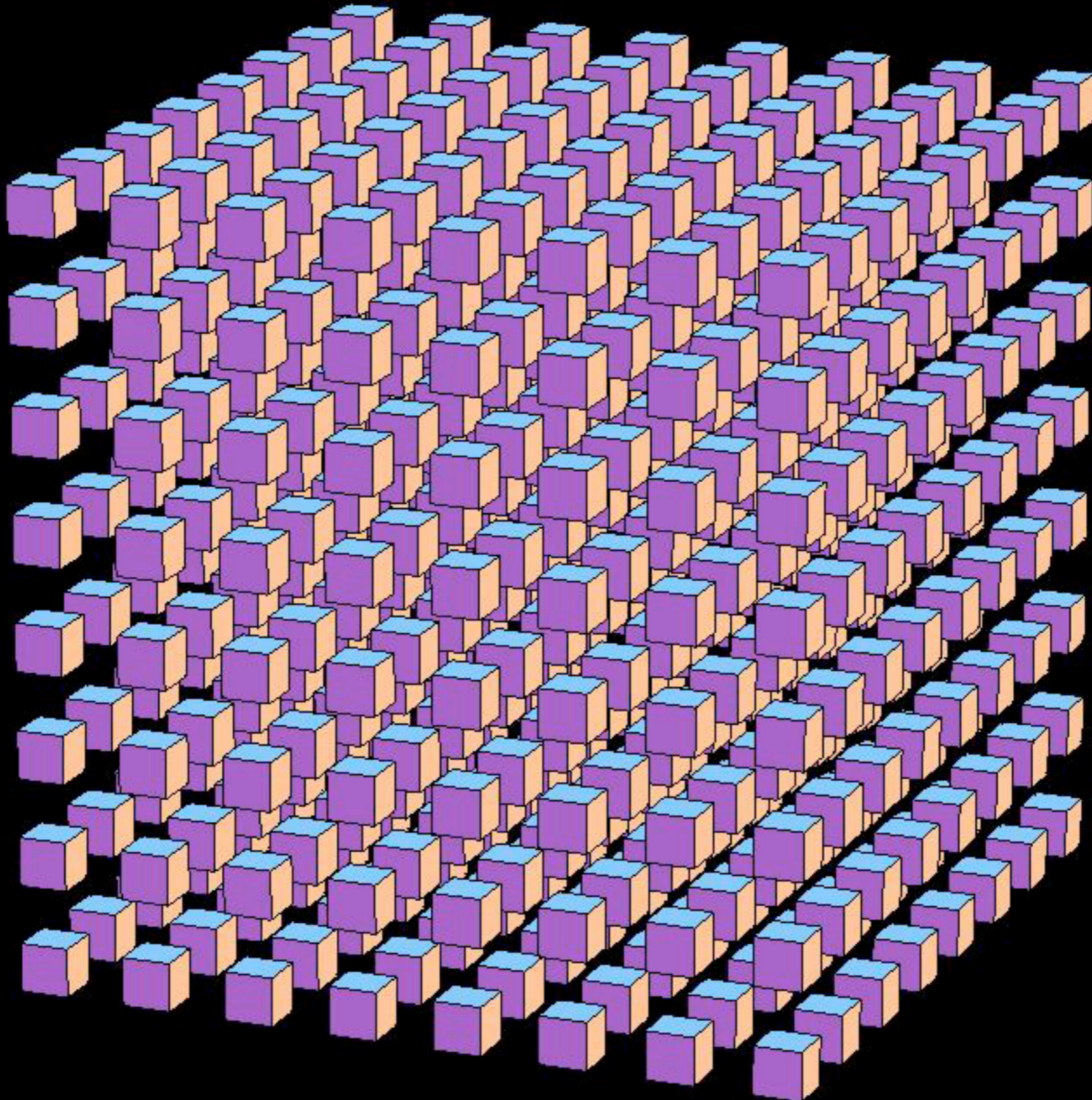
Different Risks



Nano-ZnO: One chemistry, many shapes

Courtesy of Prof. Z.L. Wang, Georgia Tech

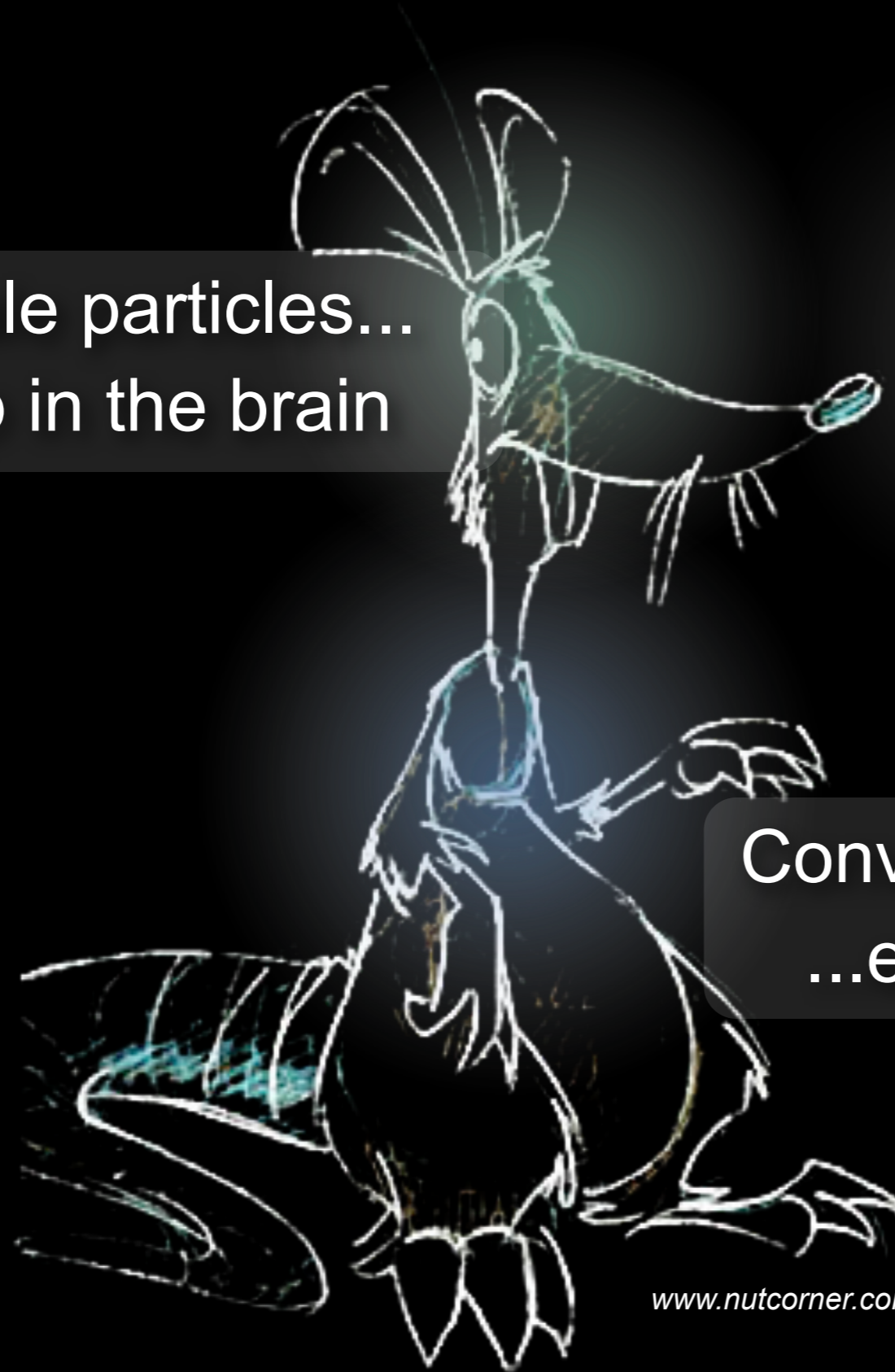
Nanoparticles do not play by the rules



Nanoparticles get to the places other particles cannot reach

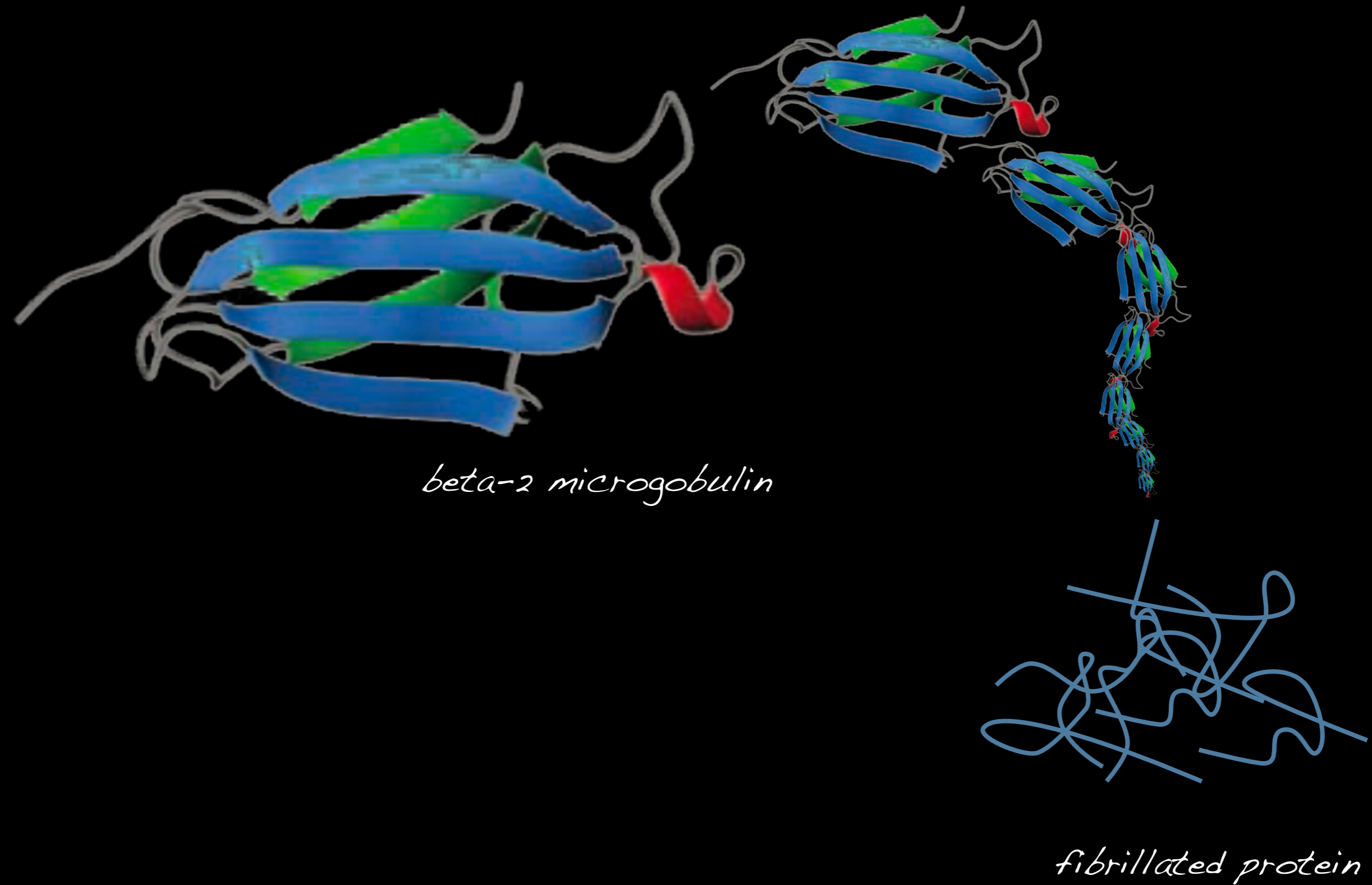
Nanoscale particles...
...end up in the brain

Conventional particles...
...end up in the lungs

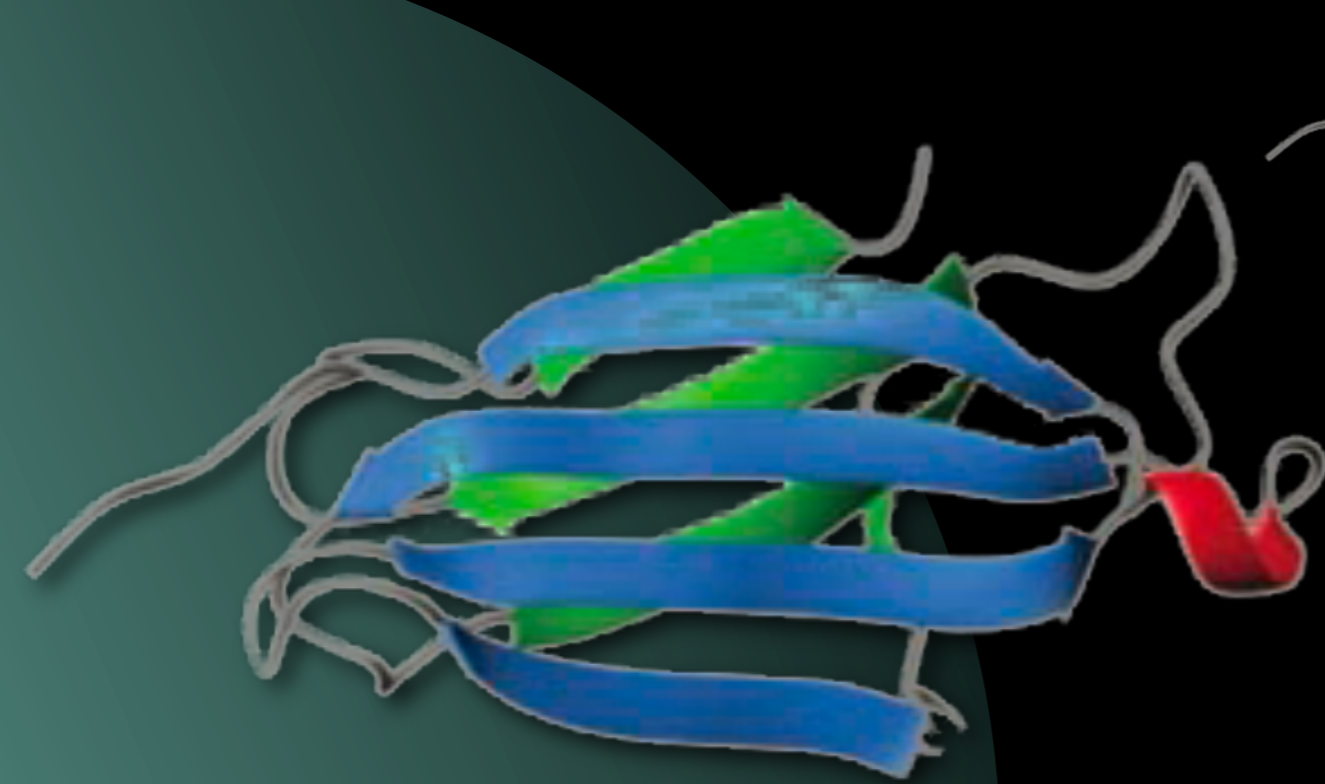


www.nutcorner.com/drawing/rat.htm

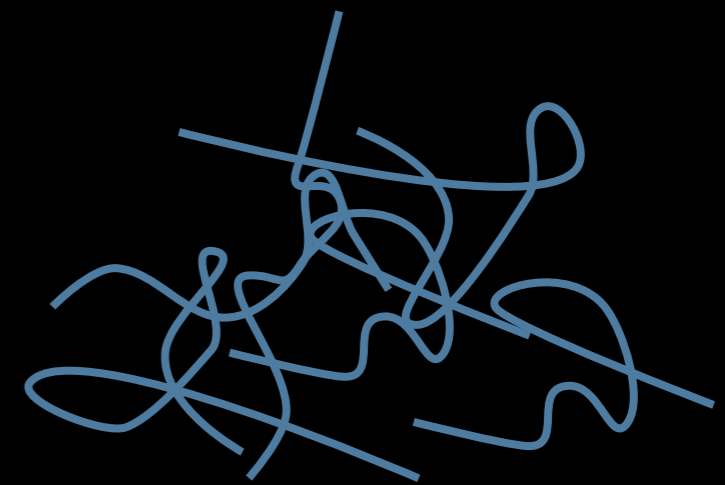
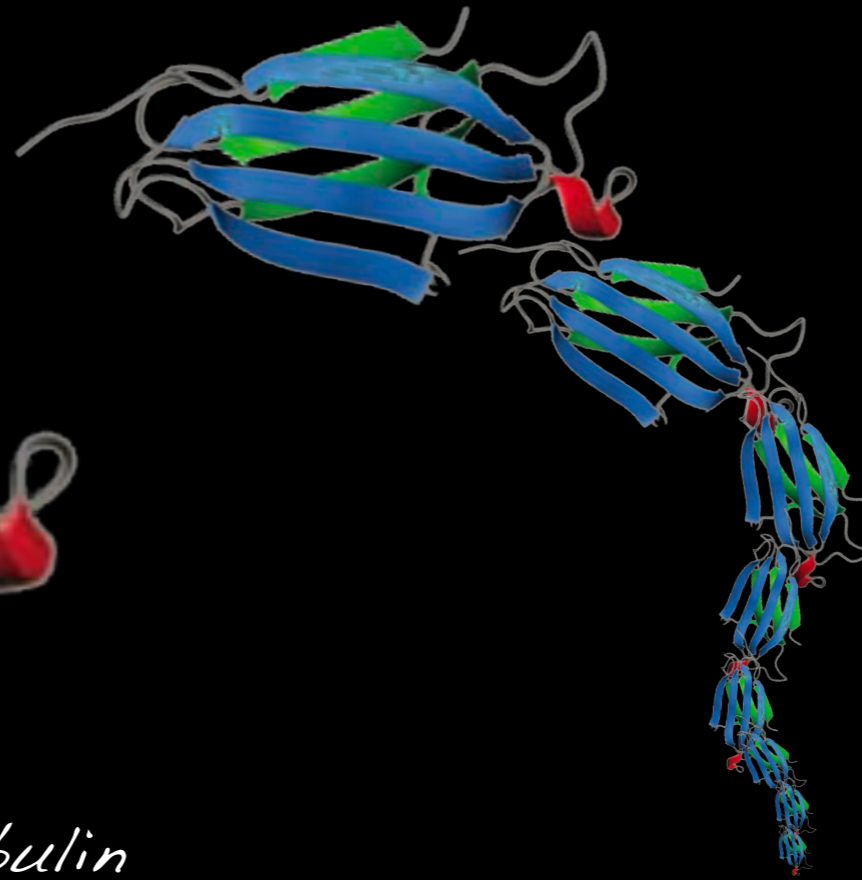
Nanoparticles might even interfere with biology



Nanoparticles might even interfere with biology

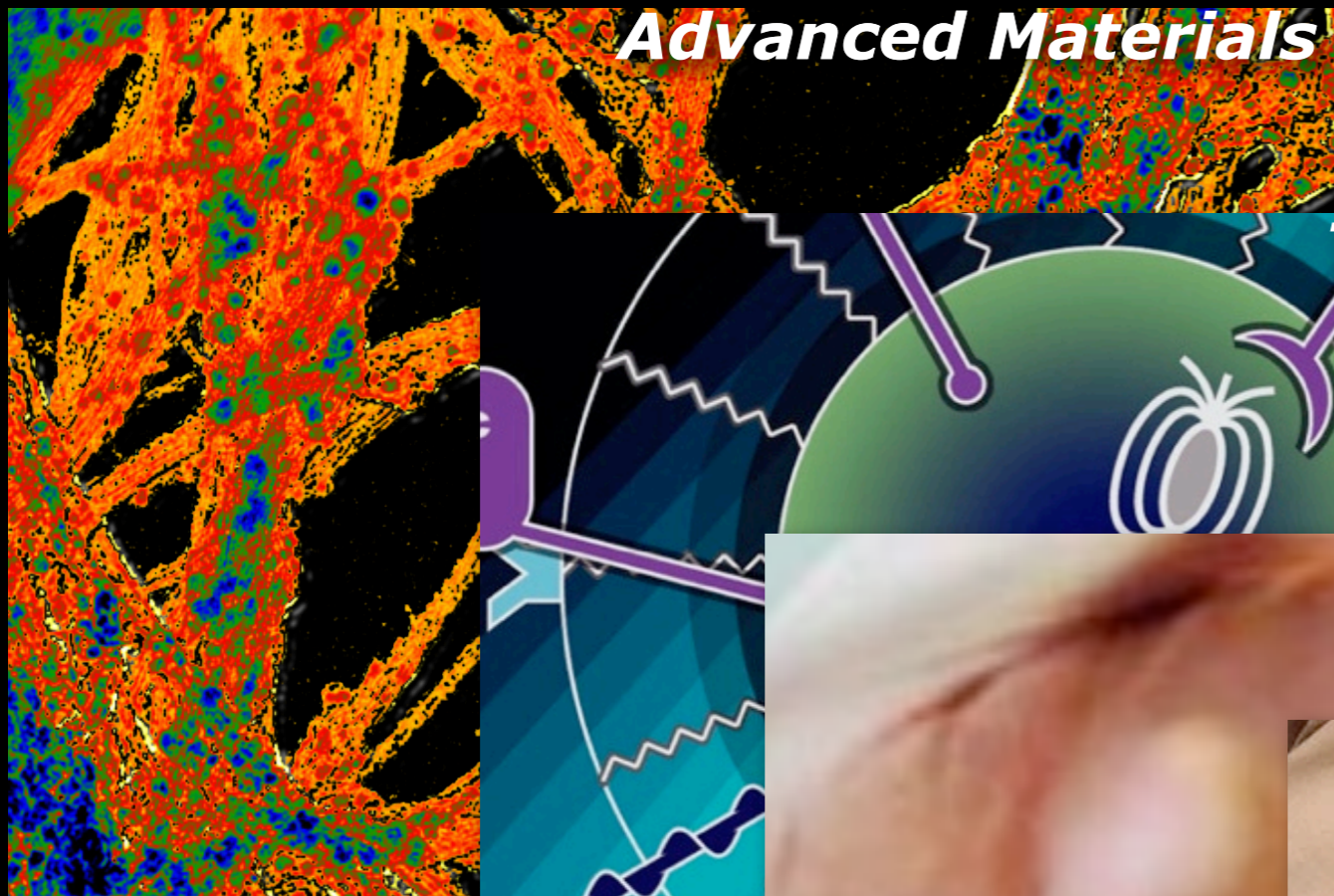


beta-2 microglobulin



fibrillated protein

Advanced Materials



Therapeutics



Renewable Energy



Clean Water



Andrew D. Maynard PhD

Chief Science Advisor

Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

Tel: +1 202 691 4311

Email: andrew.maynard@wilsoncenter.org

Web: www.nanotechproject.org

Blog: 2020science.org