

"Producing each of its creations ... nature intermingled the harmony of beauty and the harmony of expediency and shaped it into the unique form which is perfect from the point of view of an engineer."

(M. Tupolev)









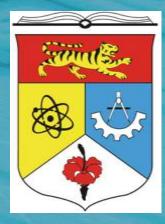


Nanobioconvergence



Ille C. Gebeshuber

IMEN, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia IAP, Vienna University of Technology, Austria AC2T Austrian Center of Competence for Tribology



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Outline

- Definition
- Examples from nature and technology
- Governance, Risks and Societal Implications
- Conclusions



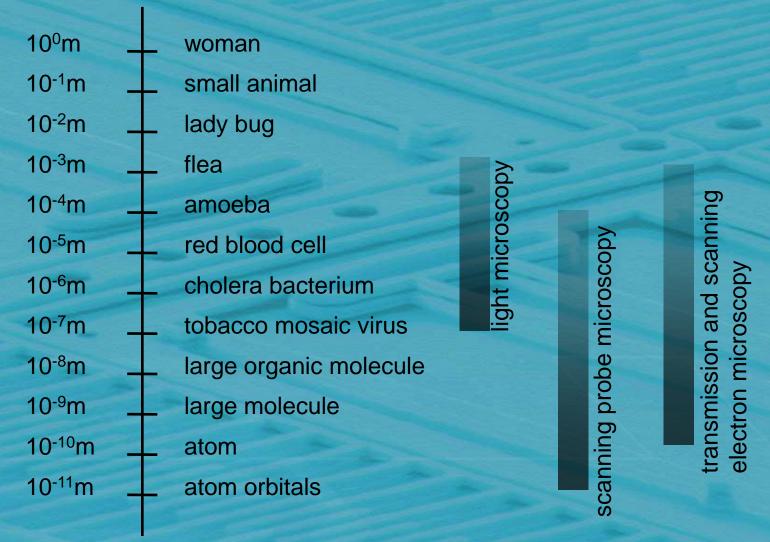


Definition

Nanobioconvergence denotes the merging of life sciences, especially biology and biotechnology, with nanoscience and nanotechnology, focusing on the technical output from the connections of these particular fields as well as on the unified opportunities and challenges they present to human nature and our values.



From the Macro- to the Nanoscale





200 nm wide linking structures

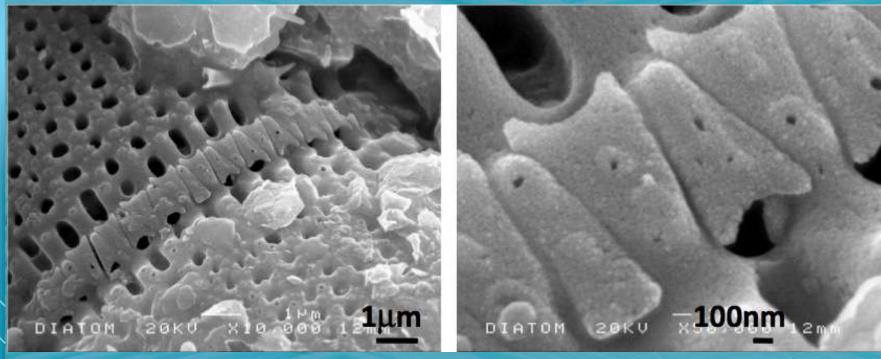
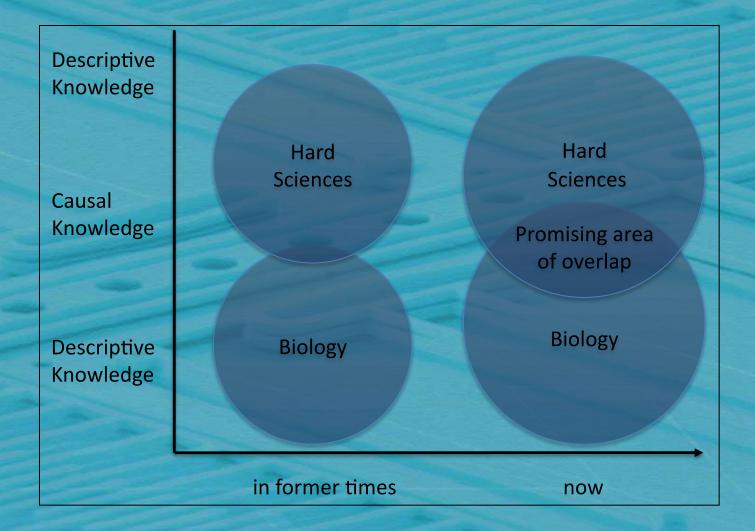


Image © Duncan Waddell, Queensland Art Gallery, Australia





Hard Sciences meet Biology

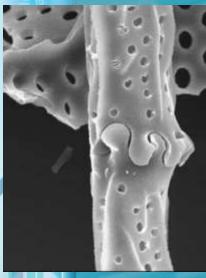


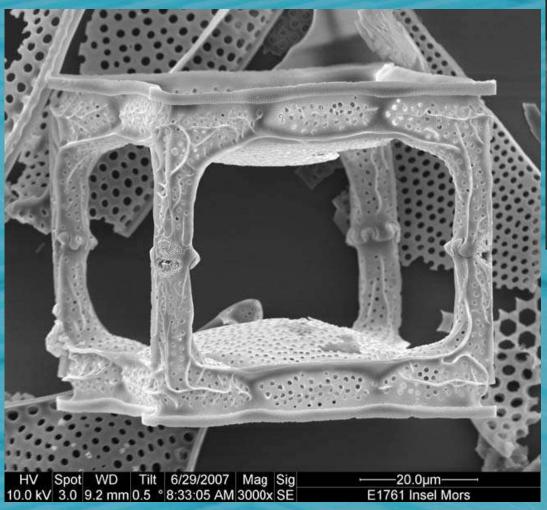


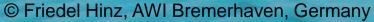
Gebeshuber I.C., H. Stachelberger and B.Y. Majlis (2009) Exploring the innovation potential of biomimetics for novel 3D micro- and nanoelectromechanical Systems (MEMS and NEMS). Proc. Sixth Plant Biomechanics Conference, November 16th - 21st, 2009, Cayenne, French Guyana, France, Ed. Bernard Thibaut, 374-381.



stitute of Microengineerir d Nanoelectronics











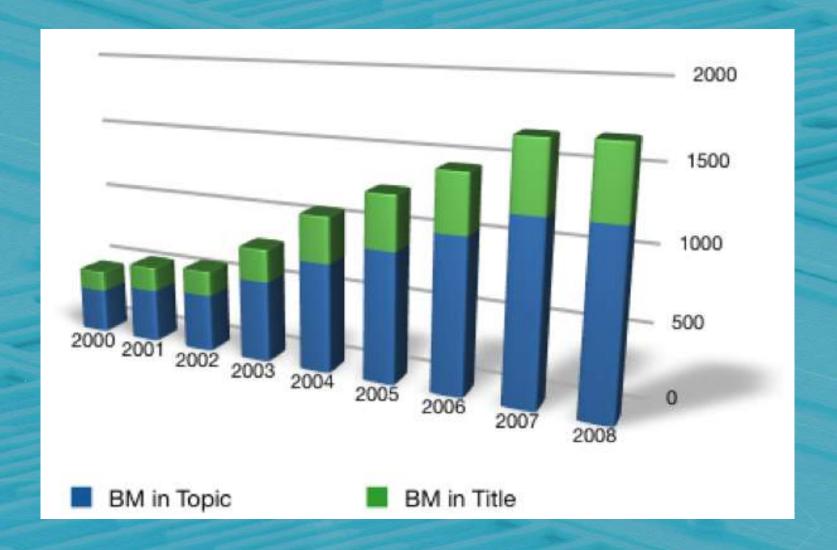
Biomimetics is the abstraction of good design from nature.

Center for Biomimetics, UK





The Rise of Biomimetics





Gebeshuber I.C., Majlis B.Y. and Stachelberger H. (2009) *Tribology in Biology: Biomimetic studies across dimensions and across fields.* Int. J. Mech. Mat. Eng. 4(3), 321-327.



General Biomimetic Principles

Can be applied by engineers who are not at all involved in biology.

- 1. Integration instead of additive construction
- 2. Optimization of the whole instead of maximization of a single component feature
- 3. Multi-functionality instead of monofunctionality
- 4. Fine-tuning regarding the environment
- 5. Energy efficiency





General Biomimetic Principles

Can be applied by engineers who are not at all involved in biology.

- 6. Direct and indirect usage of solar energy
- 7. Limitation in time instead of unnecessary durability
- 8. Full recycling instead of piling waste
- 9. Interconnectedness as opposed to linearity
- Development via trial-and-error processes



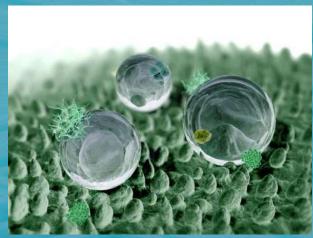


Biological Materials

- Tough materials
- Smart materials
- Adaptive materials
- Functional materials
- Materials with molecular precision
- Hierarchical materials
- Multiuse materials



















Petra Gruber Dietmar Bruckner Christian Hellmich Heinz-Bodo Schmiedmayer Herbert Stachelberger Ille C. Gebeshuber Editors

Biomimetics – Materials, Structures and Processes

Examples, Ideas and Case Studies



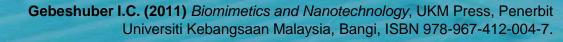
Selected aspects of BIOMIMETICS, NANOTECHNOLOGY and RELATED DISSEMINATION

ACTIVITIES



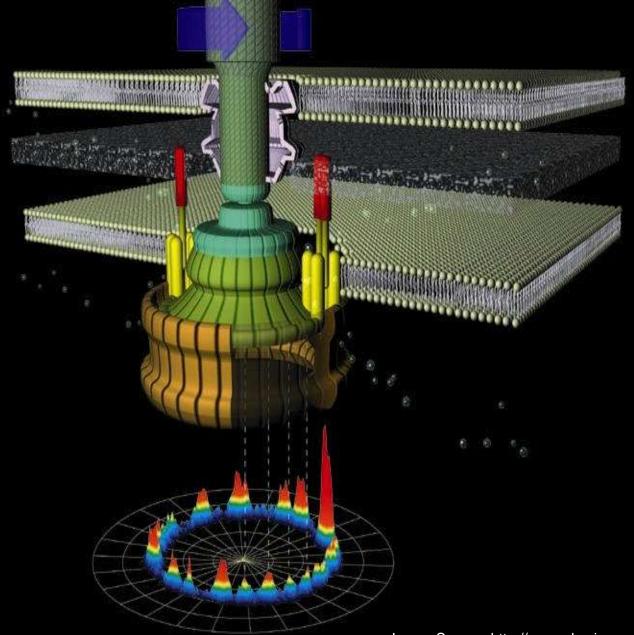
Ille C. Gebeshuber

Image © F. Hinz, AWI Bremerhaven





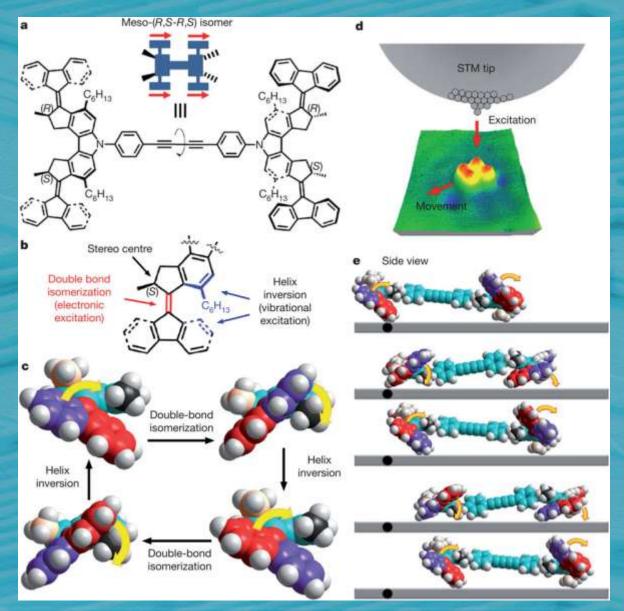
Molecular Motors







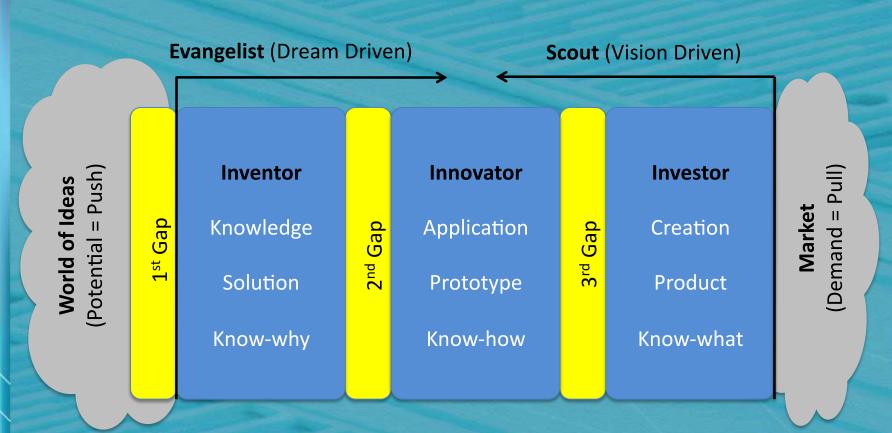
Nanocar







The Three Gaps Theory







Governance and Risks

- Nanobioconvergence has implications on various areas – including health, environmental and social issues.
- Therefore, prospects, problems and potential risks are an important issue.
- Technological, environmental, societal, health, and safety issues must be addressed in research, societal studies, regulatory measures, and government policies.





Societal Implications

Societal implications of converging technologies should be judged using a balanced approach between the goals (leading to envisioned societal benefits) and unexpected consequences (which could be a combination of unexpected benefits and risks).



Conclusions and Outlook

- The fully exploit the potential of nanobioconvergence scientists and engineers will have to substantially change their methods and concepts of thinking, especially on the level of fundamental research.
- Interdisciplinary scientific principles and concepts that allow specialist scientists to understand complex phenomena need to be developed.
- The specialist results that currently appear in increasingly specialist journals need to be rearranged and connected across fields.



