Tiny domain expands into mega-nanotechnology

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Four-armed nanocrystals such as those made of cadmium telluride (viewed from above) could serve as natural wiring connectors for miniaturized electronics of the future, some scientists think.

The marriage of biology, chemistry and physics is just one reason why nanotechnology is so compelling, says Dr. Baughman. He foresees the explosion of nanotechnology research continuing over the next few years, especially in his lab.

"As long as it's exciting, I don't care if it's news or not," Dr. Baughman says. "But nan is one of the most exciting areas."