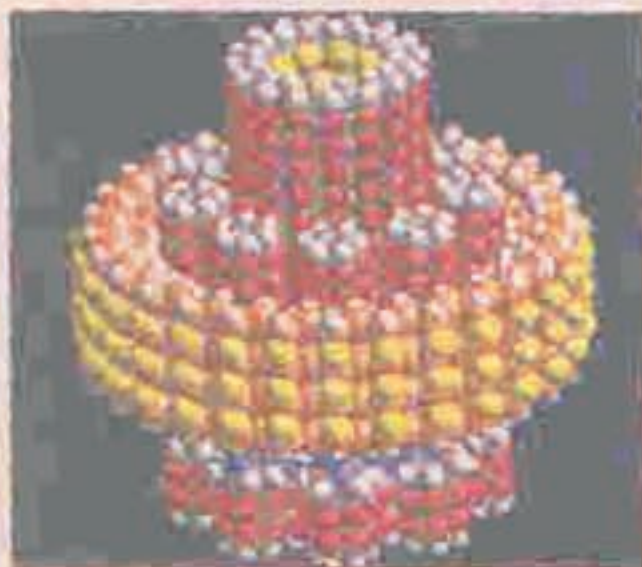


Nanotech makes PCs smaller, faster

PTI

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SCIENTISTS have developed a new nano technology which they claim will help make computers smaller, faster and more efficient. A team at California University has created a way to make square nanoscale chemical patterns that may be used in the manufacture



of integrated circuit chips as early as 2011 — it is called block co-polymer lithography. They have also built a process for creating features on silicon wafers between five and 20 nanometres thick.

For the future we need more powerful microprocessors that use less energy. And if you can shrink all these things down you get both. You get power and energy efficiency in one package. We have come up with this new blending ap-

proach called block co-polymer lithography or BCP. It essentially relies on a natural self-assembly process.

Just like proteins in the body these molecules come together and self assemble into a pattern. And so we use that

pattern as our lithographic tool to make patterns on the silicon wafer. Using this technique the size of the features is about the same as that of the molecules. They are very small between five and 20 nanometres, Craig Hawker, who led the team said.

According to the scientists, the new technology is designed to be compatible with current manufacturing methods giving it the potential to be a slip-in technology the Science Daily reported.

All the big microprocessor companies like Intel and IBM have invested billions of dollars in their fabrication plants.