

A Survey of Recent Advances in Nanotechnology for Automotive Uses

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ABSTRACT

Applications for nanotechnology in the automobile sector are many. They cover a wide range of topics, including power train, lightweight design, energy conversion, pollution monitoring and reduction, interior cooling, wear reduction, driving dynamics, surveillance management, and much more. Moreover, ideas for "Nano in automobiles" range from contributions to CO₂-free engines, safe driving, silent cars, self-healing bodies and windscreens, up to mood-dependent color choices and a self-forming car body. All of this will satisfy consumer needs for increased comfort, safety, and ecology, which are sometimes summed up under the phrase sustainability. Nanoparticles, dots, holes, fibres, tubes, whiskers, and layers used in automotive components can either be spread within a matrix material and referred to as "nanocomposites" or arrayed on surfaces and utilized as a distinct material and referred to as "nanostructures" offer exclusive potential. Volume effects like diffusion, absorption and mechanical strength might be tailored, furthermore surface effects like adsorption, hardness, and catalytic reaction. Self-organization of structures will play an essential role in growth, deposition and etching. We will present an overview about existing nanotechnologies in cars already on the market, applications with short-term and medium-term potential as well as long-term applications such as light-weight construction using Nano-carbon nanotubes which are presently investigated in research labs worldwide and have a high potential if they can be used for automotive bodies

Keywords: Automotive industry; Nanotechnology; Nanocomposites; Nanoparticles, MEMS, nanostructures Vehicle dynamic control.

INTRODUCTION

A brief literature within the automobile context has returned to the foreground to provide an overview of this different technology. Among the fields of applied science, a road map has already been established through public discussions and economic and social analyses. Modern companies aim to be accepting of applied science under tight automobile norms since it is being promoted as a successor for the industrial revolution. Small dimensions, segmented high speed and high functional density, small and light-weight devices and sensors, high sensitivity, and distinctive surface effects are the origins of applied science, which provides greater potency in almost every aspect of the automobile industry [1]. Also, it has a significant influence on a variety of vehicle components and is capable of complying with corporate regulations regarding emissions and security. Applied science is apace dynamical the method cars are created, creating it attainable to make cars with in depth service life; lower element failure rate and sensible materials for self-repairing. Materials at nanoscales exhibit distinctive properties completely different from their bulk state. Vehicles contrived with these materials will be manipulated to form their properties a lot of advantageous [2]. International automotive markets expect exponential positive returns; however, they're hurdled by high initial investments and restricted analysis and development though applied science applications in automotive trade are manifold, several of the aspects of applied science remains untapped and unacknowledged

LITERATURE REVIEW

Today, Nanotechnology has opened new doors for automotive sectors. The entire product lifecycle management can be mounted on the automation of this technology. Besides being promisingly sustainable, safe, comfortable, and ecofriendly, it is also commercially economical technology.

CO₂- free engines, safe driving, quiet cars, self-cleaning body, and windscreens etc. can be the key drivers for the idea of

-Nano in cars to come alive [3]. Nanotechnology explicitly presents new opportunities for worldwide accomplishments of automobiles. This technology is not only finding its way into every corner of car-world but is also bringing great benefits. Fundamentally, two main approaches are used in nanotechnology. Firstly, the "bottom-up" approach, where Nano-objects are created by assembling individual atoms together, thus is reducing the randomness in structural formation. Secondly, the "top-down" approach, where nanoobjects are built from larger units without atomic level control. Reports show that nanotechnology is advancing as a core technology for automotive development. Many authors have emphasized on the use of nanocomposites in several domains like frames and body parts, engines, paints and coatings, suspension and braking systems, lubrication, tires, exhaust systems, etc. Many anticipate that, certain materials like carbon nanotubes and carbon black that has enhanced mechanical, physical, and processing properties will render new functionalities. In addition, they may improve manufacturing speed and enhance environmental, thermal, and mechanical stability [4]. This means that car bodies will undergo less wear, better gliding, thinner coating, fewer lubrication, longer service intervals, and weight reduction. Lighter car bodies will use less material, without compromising the stiffness and crash resistance and will indirectly save fuel profoundly. This will also ensure greater safety and improved highway systems. Nowadays nanotechnology is blended with many pronounced disciplines to obtain exemplary products. One such technological breakthrough is the MEMS technology. In fact, automotive components need to be produced in very large volumes not only to meet the demand, but also to meet the necessity of recovering the initial investments. MEMS ought to be a crucial solution for this setback. Due to the progress made in batch manufacturing of MEMS, large volumes of highly uniform devices can be created at relatively low cost [5]. Apart from this, nanotechnology contributes prominently in production of innovative materials, growth of income and employment. As yet, nanotechnology has influenced the auto industry on a very small scale, but it is betting big on the applications that are unthinkable, provided; the company should generate sustainable revenue stream and healthy profit margin [6]. Results from studies of various authors show that demand for increased power performance has turned the automakers to new technologies. For e.g. Cars powered by its own body panels is seen as next milestone especially in development of electric cars, and the concept of supercapacitor technology based on carbon nanotubes, seems the most lucrative idea. This is definitely going to be not only energy intensive but highly resource intensive too. It would trace behind significant impacts not only on environmental factors but also on financial factors. Therefore, nanoscience and nanotechnology ventures are counting big on commercial ramp-up [7]. Market continually demands better and more durable automotive coatings. Nanofillers for coatings may be inorganic or organic, like silicates, oxides, organo-clays, acrylics, urethanes, etc. The effect of coating properties varies inversely with the size of filler particles. Need of nanocoating is of paramount importance as they bring out the aesthetics of the product. Apart from the functionality, today's customers demand sublime surface smoothness, reflectivity, and high gloss appearance [8].

APPLICATIONS

Nanotechnology has flooded the automotive hub with clusters of new-found technologies, which has together come up with classic applications in each and every part of automobiles. This has created new opportunities for encroachment of car engineering.

Tyres

Rubber fillers, like carbon black and silica as Nano-structured materials have been cited as essence of automotive tyre sector for many years. But recently, research programs have been conducted to improvise these materials in order to provide lower rolling resistance, abrasion resistance, extended tyre

life, and wet traction, safety, lower weight, superior performance, reduced friction and improved air retention.

Chassis

One of the automotive industry's most ambitious goals is the introduction of bodywork made of light alloys. Addition of new electronic components, safety technologies and increasing comfort features would have made the modern cars heavier. To relieve this, incorporation of nanoparticles has made it possible to reach the same mechanical resistance and lighter weights with less and lighter material. This can considerably improve the properties, like resistance, elasticity, or dimensional stability, as well as specific properties like fire resistance for interior parts and weather resistance for outer parts. Plastic bodywork is yet another option, provided; they undergo electrostatic painting together with metallic parts [9].

Coatings

Nanotechnology can be best used in automotive in the coatings. Parts of standard vehicles are treated with protective and decorative finishes. Coating has already made glass heat reflective. In addition, water and dust repellent coatings have already been applied to cars. However, there still remains a vast area where nanocoatings have to pave its way. Many coatings have been around for a long time and continue to have use and function in the automotive marketplace. Hard coatings of ceramics improve wear and friction characteristics of components, along with the specialty of detecting even fractional concentrations of gas in vehicle interiors. Self-repairing is yet another concept where materials can refine their original shape under the influence of external temperature. In addition, the electro-chromic coatings are prophetic of the enormous boon for future cars [10].

Nano-Fluids

The use of nanofluids has a clear advantage from the thermal performance viewpoint. The heat transfer coefficient of coolants can be increased by improving its specific properties. Nano-fluids can form vital component of fuel additives, coolants, brake fluids, lubricants and shock absorber systems, transmission fluids, engine oils and greases, etc. Nano-fluids have great potentials to improve automotive and heavy-duty engine cooling rates by increasing the efficiency, lowering the weight, and reducing the complexity of thermal management systems. The heat rejection requirements of automobiles can also be met in the same way [11]

Nano Enabled Automotive Textiles

To enhance both the intrinsic and the perceived quality and comfort in a vehicle's nanotextiles play an important role. Nanofibers can produce materials with reduced weight, proper insulation, and noise absorbents for accessories like cabin roof, boot carpets, safety belts, airbags, air filtrations, tyre cords, and trimmings. Moreover, these textiles can be recycled easily and can replace conventional hard-surface structures.

Sensors

Considered by most engineers as cutting-edge or fringe technology, MEMS sensors have been embraced by the automotive industry in its quest to improve performance, reduce cost, and enhance the reliability of the family sedan. In fact, hundreds of millions of MEMS sensors have been used in automobiles over the past decade.

Many of these sensors (e.g., MEMS pressure sensors) simply replace older technologies with cheaper, more reliable devices. In contrast, MEMS inertial sensors have enabled many desirable features that are increasingly common in cars today. In this article, I'll examine automotive inertial MEMS sensor applications, describe how they work, and discuss what it is about MEMS sensors that enable or

greatly improve the application. Many of the applications will be well known to you because they've become ubiquitous in automobiles. Some applications (often the most interesting) are just appearing in high-end models but are destined to become standard equipment.

Crash Sensing for Airbag Control

Sensors are the detectors that can monitor the state of a number of aggregate moving systems. Types of sensors used in order to improve the reliability of the systems are rotational motion sensors that detect shaft rotational motion, pressure sensors that measure the pressure, linear position sensors that measure linear displacement, angular position sensors that measures revolutions, temperature sensors, etc.

Application of Nano-structured materials on the other hand assures the safety of car and its passengers. Apart from this, flexibility weight reduction, and strength of nanostructures are to be taken care of, so as to increase the performance, reducing fuel consumption and economy of operation.

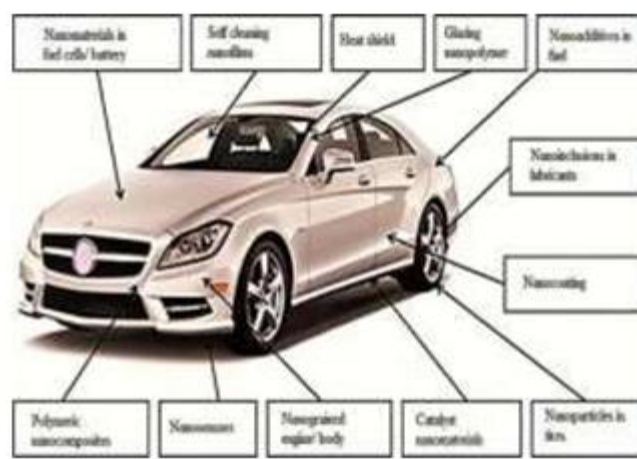


Fig. 1 Automotive applications of nanotechnology

MEMS SENSORS ARE DRIVING THEAUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

Crash sensing for air bag control represents the largest automotive use of inertial MEMS sensors. In this application, an accelerometer continuously measures the acceleration of the car. When this parameter goes beyond a predetermined threshold, a microcontroller computes the integral of the acceleration (i.e., the area under the curve) to determine if a large net change in velocity has occurred. If it has, the air bag is fired. The decision to fire front air bags has to be made in dozens of milliseconds? the decision to fire side air bags must be made even more quickly because the car door is closer to the occupant than the steering wheel or dashboard.

About 15 or 20 years ago, when air bags first appeared in automobiles, air bag control module makers relied on g switches (an inertial switch made up of a contact, ball, and spring housed in a cylindrical enclosure) distributed throughout the automobile. These switches don't give a lot of information about the nature of the acceleration that is being sensed. They simply provide an on/off signal telling you that the acceleration is above or below a threshold. As a result, a simple center console air bag control module requires several switches (generally three to seven) to decide if the acceleration is the result of road roughness or a crash. Worse yet—because of the reliability and long life required of their contacts—g switches are costly. Wiring them to several locations throughout the car increased their cost and reduced theirreliability.

The introduction of MEMS accelerometers to air bag control modules virtually eliminated the use of g switches as the primary acceleration sensor in air bag modules. Because the MEMS accelerometer reads a continuous (analog) measurement, you can replace the g switches with one MEMS device in

the center console. The resulting increase in reliability (e.g., Analog Devices' highly integrated accelerometers achieve single-digit ppm defect rates) and reduction in price of the air bag system helped bring about its near universal inclusion in cars. Better still, MEMS accelerometers can perform robust self-testing, allowing the air bag module processor to determine if the sensor's data are reliable or if the air bag module must be serviced.

MEMS accelerometers commonly control side air bags. Because the fire decision must be made quickly, there is no time to wait for the propagation of the sensor's signal through the car's chassis, so the sensor must be placed close to the air bag it controls. In addition, because there is virtually no crush zone between the impact and the accelerometer, the measurement range must be above the center console accelerometers. As a result, many vehicles outfitted with side air bags may add two to four more MEMS accelerometers for this function.

Front-looking crash sensors placed just behind the front bumper are being added to some models to help determine the severity of the frontal crash. The acceleration signature of the front-looking sensor is compared with that of the center console accelerometer, allowing the air bag module controller to modulate the inflation rate of the air bag to match the deceleration rate of the car. Here, too, high g range and compact size are important factors in this application.

Vehicle Dynamic Control

Vehicle dynamic control (VDC) frameworks enable the driver to recapture control of the car when it begins to slip. In the event that the VDC works appropriately, the driver may not know that the framework interceded.

A VDC framework comprises of a whirlygig, a low-g accelerometer, and wheel-speed sensors at each wheel (the wheel-speed sensors may likewise be utilized by the ABS). Wheel speed is estimated, and the anticipated yaw (or turn) rate of the vehicle is contrasted and that measured by the spinner. A low-g accelerometer is likewise used to decide whether the vehicle is sliding along the side. On the off chance that the deliberate yaw rate varies from the figured yaw rate, or if parallel sliding is identified, single-wheel braking or torque decrease can be utilized to influence the vehicle to get back in line.

Prior to the coming of MEMS gyroscopes and accelerometers, VDC for conventional traveler vehicles was illogical. Traditional gyros and accelerometers would add a large number of dollars to the expense of the vehicle. In fact, customary gyros, worked with turning masses and strain measures, most likely wouldn't be rough enough to meet the

>10-year operational necessity of the car showcase. Indeed, even the MEMS gyros are scarcely capable. A common MEMS gyro utilizes a quartz tuning fork. The vibration of the tuning fork, alongside connected precise turn (yaw rate of the vehicle), makes Coriolis increasing speed on the tuning fork. An accelerometer or strain check appended to the tuning fork estimates the moment Coriolis constrain.

Flag yield is corresponding to tuning-fork measure. To create a sufficient yield flag, the tuning fork must vibrate powerfully. You can best achieve this with a high Q structure. Makers frequently put the tuning fork in a vacuum to limit mechanical damping via air around the tuning fork. High Q structures can be genuinely delicate.

Since the gyro must be unbendingly associated with the vehicle to precisely gauge yaw rate, the gyro regularly encounters stun and vibration. This mechanical commotion can acquaint y motion with the Coriolis pick-off accelerometer that is a few requests of greatness higher than the tuning fork? Produced Coriolis flag. Isolating the flag from the commotion isn't simple. Frequently, the stun or vibration soaks the hardware and makes the gyro yield temperamental for a brief span (this clarifies why your VDC cautioning light may every so often please for no clear reason).

Regular MEMS gyros are generally cumbersome (100 cm³ or more isn't remarkable). This is incompletely the aftereffect of the expansion of mechanical antivibration mounts, which are consolidated to limit affectability to outer vibration.

New MEMS gadgets maintain a strategic distance from these weaknesses, however. For instance, Simple Gadgets' MEMS gyro (which is being developed) is 7 by 7 by 3 mm (0.15 cm³). As opposed to quartz, it utilizes a resonating polysilicon shaft structure, which makes the speed component that delivers the Coriolis compel when rakish rate is introduced to it. At the external edges of the polysilicon bar, symmetrical to the reverberating movement, a capacitive accelerometer estimates the Coriolis constrain. The gyro has two arrangements of shafts in antiphase that are put by one another, and their yields are perused differentially, lessening outside vibration affectability.

Rollover Detection

Barely any vehicles have rollover discovery frameworks, yet automakers are quickly embracing this component. This is especially valid for vans, pickup trucks, and game utility vehicles, which are bound to move over in view of their higher focal point of gravity. These frameworks read the move point and move rate of the vehicle to decide whether it is tipping over. On the off chance that it is, the framework fires the side window ornament air sacks to ensure the inhabitants.

Rollover recognition frameworks utilize a gyrator to peruse the move rate. The move rate is coordinated to decide the move point of the vehicle however move rate information alone are insufficient to anticipate if a vehicle is (or will be) moving over. An accelerometer perusing vertical speeding up (Z hub) is additionally required on the grounds that vast move edges can be experienced in managed an account bends with no probability of rollover.

Numerous rollover location frameworks utilize a second accelerometer to quantify sidelong quickening (Y pivot). In the event that a vehicle is sliding sideways, it's less inclined to move over if unhindered. In any case, on the off chance that it hits a control or another question, the odds of a rollover increment fundamentally. The side accident location accelerometer by and large can't play out this assignment in light of the fact that the extent of speeding up while sliding sideways is near the commotion floor of the regular >100 g run utilized for side effect discovery. A low g go, double hub accelerometer is most appropriate to perusing the Y and Z tomahawks' quickening.

Gyros utilized for rollover detecting don't require indistinguishable goals from those utilized in VDC frameworks on the grounds that the move rates are a large portion of a request of size more noteworthy, however they should have magnificent dismissal of outside stun and vibration. It's not irregular for a vehicle to move over promptly in the wake of striking another vehicle or stationary protest. A gyro whose yield is questionable for a brief timeframe after a stun occasion is by futile.

Antitheft Systems

One of the more mainstream approaches to take a vehicle is to just tow it away. In light of this risk, numerous automakers (especially European producers) are including antitheft frameworks fusing tilt recognition frameworks. Container European determinations require acknowledged tilt location frameworks to be fit for estimating an adjustment in tendency of 3° over a 3 min. period (i.e., a rate of 0.016° of tilt every second).

Expansive electrolytic liquid tilt sensors have the required affectability for this application, yet they miss the mark in numerous different regions. Their tilt run is restricted, so it's conceivable to stop a vehicle at a tendency that is more noteworthy than the sensor can endure. Furthermore, liquid tilt sensors don't perform well in the broadly differing car temperature condition. Then again, low g MEMS sensors are perfect in this application.

Electronic Stopping Slowing mechanisms

When you initiate your stopping brake, you regularly pull it (or push, if pedal activated) decently vigorously without worry for what amount braking power is required. Accordingly, customary stopping brakes must be significantly overbuilt.

Pushing a catch enacts electronic stopping slowing mechanisms. The framework estimates the tendency of the vehicle, decides what amount braking power is required, and applies it. This mitigates the maker of the weight of having toterribly overbuild the stopping mechanism and permits such highlights as the programmed stopping brake (when the framework confirms that the vehicle is in stop and very still, it applies the stopping brake).

Indeed, a low-g accelerometer is utilized. The execution prerequisites are like those of the antitheft framework. Sometimes, a solitary sensor can give tendency information to the two frameworks.

Vehicle Route Frameworks

Vehicle route frameworks are quickly turning into a standard component in American extravagance autos. In Japan, the greater part the autos sold in 2001 were furnished with route frameworks.

A worldwide situating framework (GPS) is a basic piece of a route framework, however GPS data alone is deficient for route. The GPS can reveal to you where you are (position and height), however not what bearing you are confronting. Magnetometers (electronic compasses) are not dependable on the grounds that they're befuddled by extensive ferrous metal questions close by (e.g., a truck brimming with scrap metal in the following path).

Route frameworks depend on compass and GPS data when the framework is first begun. The course of movement is coordinated with guide information to give the framework more assurance in regards to bearing. When starting bearing is built up, spinner data is utilized to decide when and how much the vehicle has turned, until the point that directionalinformation can be checked by guide coordinating.

In urban settings, it's not strange for the GPS flag to be darkened by tall structures or passages for brief periods. At these occasions, the route framework depends on the spinner for heading data and a low-g accelerometer for position data. The speeding up flag is incorporated twice to determine position (this procedure is called dead retribution).

The Sensor Cluster

Today, many inertial sensors are used in full-featured cars (see Figures 2 and 3).

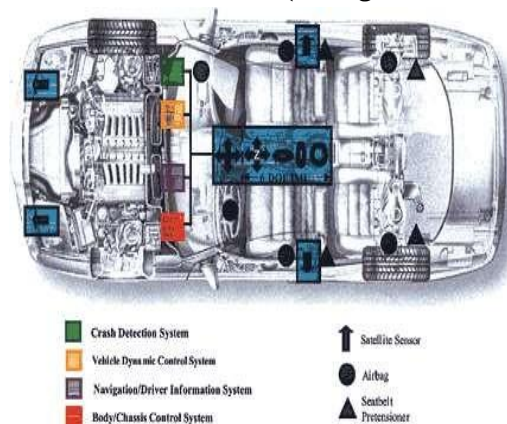


Figure 2. By using an architecture that clusters inertial MEMS sensors in the center of the automobile, fewer devices are needed to provide the information required by the various subsystems (e.g., safety and navigation). This approach is becoming the goal of many automotive OEMs.

At times, there are upwards of 15 tomahawks of inertial sensors (accelerometer and gyro) per vehicle. In any case, for what reason don't makers utilize every sensor for numerous capacities? The fundamental reason is that to date nobody has had the mastery or enthusiasm to incorporate every one of the capacities in a solitary framework. Producers frequently regard inertial sensor signs of security frameworks untouchable to outside capacities for dread they'll lose the accident sensor flag on the grounds that another subsystem (e.g., the route framework) brings the transport down.

By and by, numerous car OEMs are receiving the idea of utilizing a bunch of inertial sensors to send data to whatever framework needs it (see Figure 1). In this setup, a six-level of-opportunity inertial

estimation unit (IMU) is in the focal point of the vehicle. All the inertial extra frameworks (e.g., antitheft, VDC, electronic stopping brake, and route frameworks) utilize the IMU signals, and the unit can likewise pass data to the air pack control unit. Separate independent accelerometers are as yet put at areas around the vehicle for accident detecting. This is required by the nearness to-crash- zone request of a portion of the applications.

A side advantage of the inertial sensor group idea is that new highlights can be created at minimal extra expense in light of the fact that the inertial data is accessible for nothing. All the originator needs to do is include some insight.

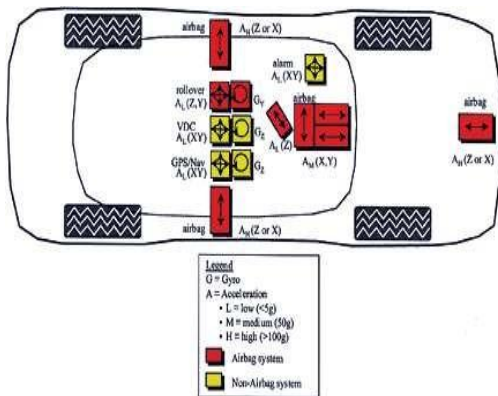


Figure 3. The number of inertial MEMS sensors used in cars is substantial and growing. Shown here are the inertial sensors used in full-featured cars today. In some cases, there are as many as 15 axes of inertial sensors (accelerometer and gyro).

CHALLENGES FACED BY NANOTECHNOLOGY IN AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRIES

In spite of being a field full of goal-oriented thoughts, nanotechnologies confront numerous contentions. These contentions may scrutinize the eventual fate of nanotechnology in car ventures if not settled with consideration. As contrasted with the other entrenched parts of connected science, nanotechnology is still in the immature stage. As opposed to the advantages; there are worries about potential significant dangers that nanotechnology may hold. There are number of different difficulties and a methodology must be made for safe nanotechnology. Indeed, even built nanomaterials can carry on uncertainly, disturbing wellbeing and condition. In this way, car producers and providers must proceed with the overwhelming undertaking of keeping themselves mindful of the on-going advancements in nanomaterial peril and hazard appraisal [19]. Nanotechnology in any case, needs to confront social difficulties, as large scale manufacturing of vehicles will make the market more cost aggressive. In spite of its gigantic points of interest, making nanotechnology industrially feasible is one more test. Plainly, the unlimited accessibility of cutting edge nanotechnology may present serious dangers for car businesses, which may finely exceed the advantages of spotless, modest, advantageous, and independent assembling [20]. For e.g., nanofluids confront restrictions, because of its poor substance and physical security in suspensions, bring down explicit warmth, staggering expense, unfortunately expanded weight drops and siphoning power. Ecological similarity is another approaching test. All encompassing methodology of nanotechnology can prompt prevalent autos and yet, it can encourage disturbance in a universal market field putting extreme weight on the focused capacities [21]. Some car firms consider nanotechnology to be an extraordinary help, while the conventionalist ones see it disparaging. A significant part of the talk on the need, control, improvement, and utilizations of nanotechnology is as yet uncertain. At last, it is shopper's enthusiasm to support nanotechnology positively.

CONCLUSION

The automotive industry will be significantly shaped by nanotechnology. Massive advancements

have changed current perspectives. The development taking place in the field of nanotechnology is expected to have an influence on the automotive sector. This audit study offers insight into the creation of Nano-designed cars and provides a future overview of ongoing and upcoming automotive technology improvements. Turning off the negative effects of nanotechnology's use in automobiles has been a pioneer in the modernization of cars. The size of invention has increased as a result of the critical use of nanotechnology in the automotive industry. Finally, it is anticipated that nanotechnology will be a widely recognized breakthrough before this decade is done.

FUTURE SCOPE

Nanotechnology foresees an impact in the vehicle business. Creating need to enhance vehicles can be amazingly particularly affected by this advancement. The entire scope of nanotechnology will set different future examples for sharp vehicles. One of the evolving scorch acteristics of current vehicles is that, constantly more parts there in are controlled electronically. For e.g. electronically controlled fuel implantation, incapacitate release, non-solidifying halting instrument, customized cooling, front light quality control, customized alteration of driver's seat, coordinating control, electronically controlled hanging, etc [22]. It should in like manner be seen that it will in like manner be progressively secure, as it will join an element of man-made awareness that engages it to change for driver botches. The vehicle of things to come will be con-nected with various vehicles in the locale, and this will grow its extent of acknowledgment. In any case, this isn't the place the vision closes. In future vehicle structuring, nanotechnological capacity will be one of the focal limits required to remain commonly forceful. All the vehicle subsystems will be an arrangement of nanotechnology.

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