





Printed Electronics: Manufacturing Technologies and Applications

Chuck Zhang

*School of Industrial & Systems Engineering (ISyE) and
Georgia Tech Manufacturing Institute (GTMI)*

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Presentation Outline

-  **Introduction to Georgia Tech Manufacturing Institute**
-  **Overview of printed electronics technology and applications**
-  **Aerosol Jet[®] Printing (AJP) process**
-  **Application case studies**

**Factory
Information
Systems**

**Composites/
Nano-
Composites
Manufacturing**

**Precision
Machining**

**Printed
Electronics
Research**



**Additive
Manufacturing**

**Sustainable
Design &
Manufacturing**

**Model-Based
Systems
Engineering**

**Industrial
Design**

**Precision
Machining**

**Nano & Bio
& Energy**

**Composites/
Nano-
Composites
Manufacturing**

**Factory
Information
Systems**

Public Policy

Robotics

**Additive
Manufacturing**

**Sustainable
Design &
Manufacturing**

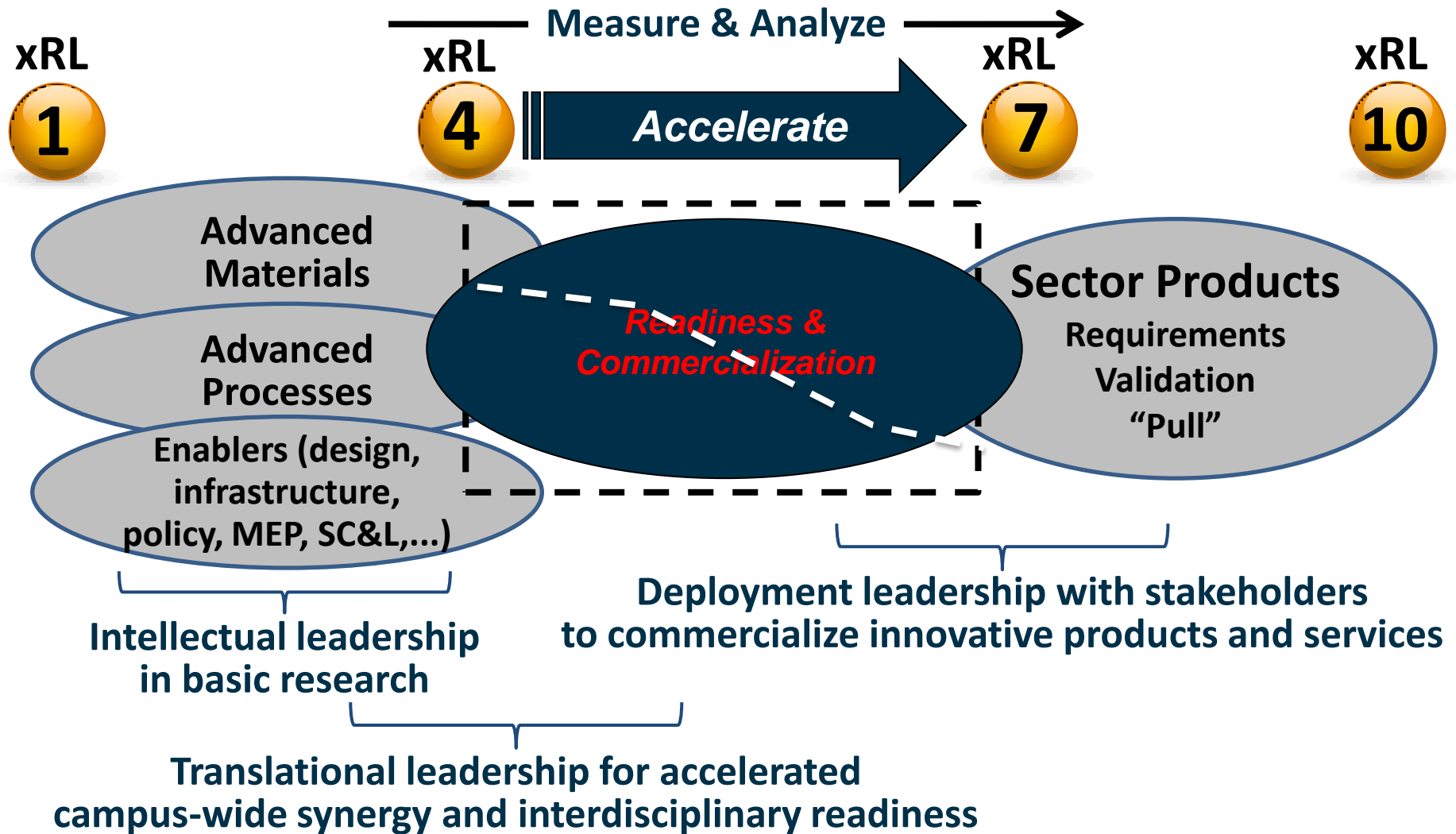
**Supply Chain
& Logistics**

**Model-Based
Systems
Engineering**

**Enterprise
Innovation
Institute**



Preliminary Design of GTMI Operating System

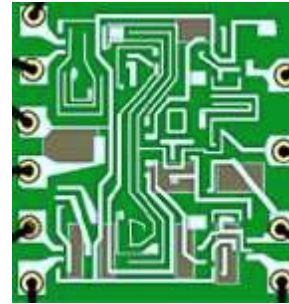
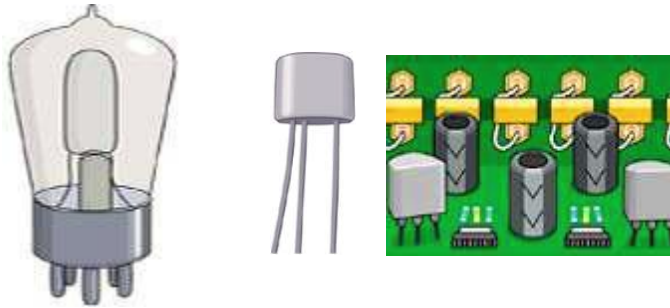


Translational Research in Additive Manufacturing at GTMI

- 🐝 **Additive manufacturing/3D printing process and equipment development (e.g., metal, polymer and composites part manufacturing)**
- 🐝 **Computational modeling and simulation of additive manufacturing/printed electronics processes**
- 🐝 **Advanced materials development for additive manufacturing/printed electronics**
- 🐝 **Application development and demonstration of additive manufacturing/printed electronics**

Technology Revolutions in Electronics

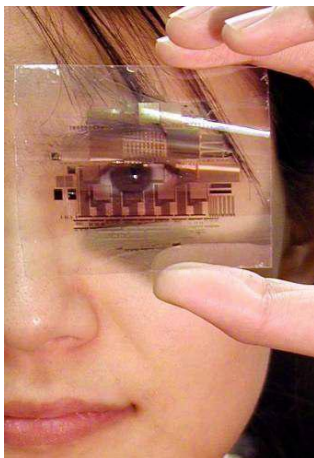
Past



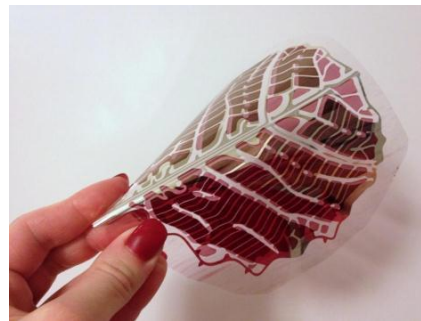
Current



Future – Beyond Silicon (Printed Electronics)



Organic circuits on polymeric substrate



Flexible solar cells



Thin flexible battery



e-paper

Grand Challenges: Cross-Cutting Technology Areas for Advanced Manufacturing

- **Advancing Sensing, Measurement, and Process Control**
- **Advanced Materials Design, Synthesis, and Processing**
- **Visualization, Informatics, and Digital Manufacturing Technologies**
- **Sustainable Manufacturing**
- **Nanomanufacturing**
- **Flexible Electronics Manufacturing**
- **Biomanufacturing and Bioinformatics**
- **Additive Manufacturing**
- **Advanced Manufacturing and Testing Equipment**
- **Industrial Robotics**
- **Advanced Forming and Joining Technologies**

Grand Challenges: Cross-Cutting Technology Areas for Advanced Manufacturing

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Flexible Electronics Manufacturing

- ***Technologies for flexible electronics manufacturing will be major differentiators in the next generation of consumer and computing devices.***
- ***Some of these devices are expected to be among the fastest growing product categories over the next decade.***

Printed Electronics Technology

- Printed electronics (PE) technique allows electronic and photonic devices to be fabricated using printing-based techniques, such as screen printing or inkjet, with conducting or semiconducting inks.
- PE can print resistors, condensers, transistors, interconnects, and most other electronic components in conventional circuits, on a wide range of substrates, like cloth or plastic.
- A fast growing advanced manufacturing technology.



FUJIFILM

Ink jet PE machine



Roll-to-roll screen printing machine

Motivation for Printed Electronics

- **Printing can be a fast and inexpensive process** (e.g. newspaper)

“inkjet, pad printing, screen, gravure, flexo, offset, ...”



- Therefore, printing processes may also **enable inexpensive electronics for new applications** (RFID tags, e-paper, disposable electronics, ...)
 - Printing often simplifies conventional processes

Printable electronics market:

~\$12 bn (2011)

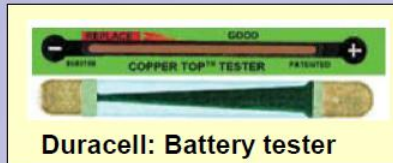
~\$30 bn (2013) ?

(Nanomarkets.net)

parc
Palo Alto Research Center

Printed Electronics Applications

■ Some examples



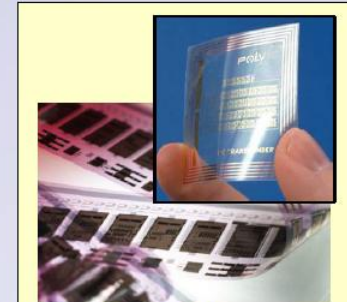
Duracell: Battery tester



Power Paper: battery



Cypak: Intelligent
Pharmaceutical
Packaging



PolyIC: RFID



Konarka: Solar cell



Pelikon: EL displays



Plastic Logic: e-paper



CSG: via etching



CDT: OLED displays

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Palo Alto Research Center

Major Applications of Printed Electronics

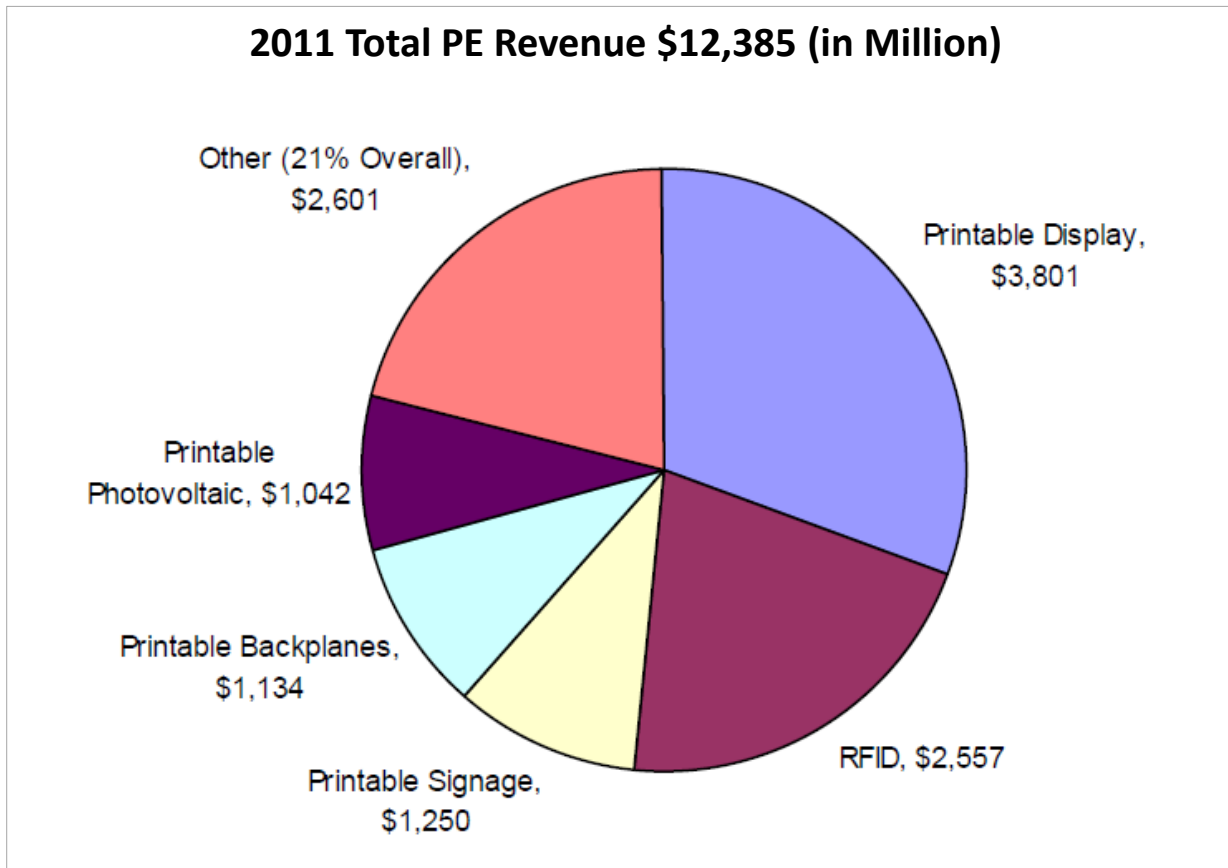
Differentiating Factors:

- Functions (e.g., flexibility)
- Manufacturing tool
- Customization
- Low cost

Applications:

- RFID
- OLED display
- OLED lighting
- Organic solar cells
- Systems on foil (smart packaging, polytronics)
- Sensors
- Energy storage devices
- Biomedical devices

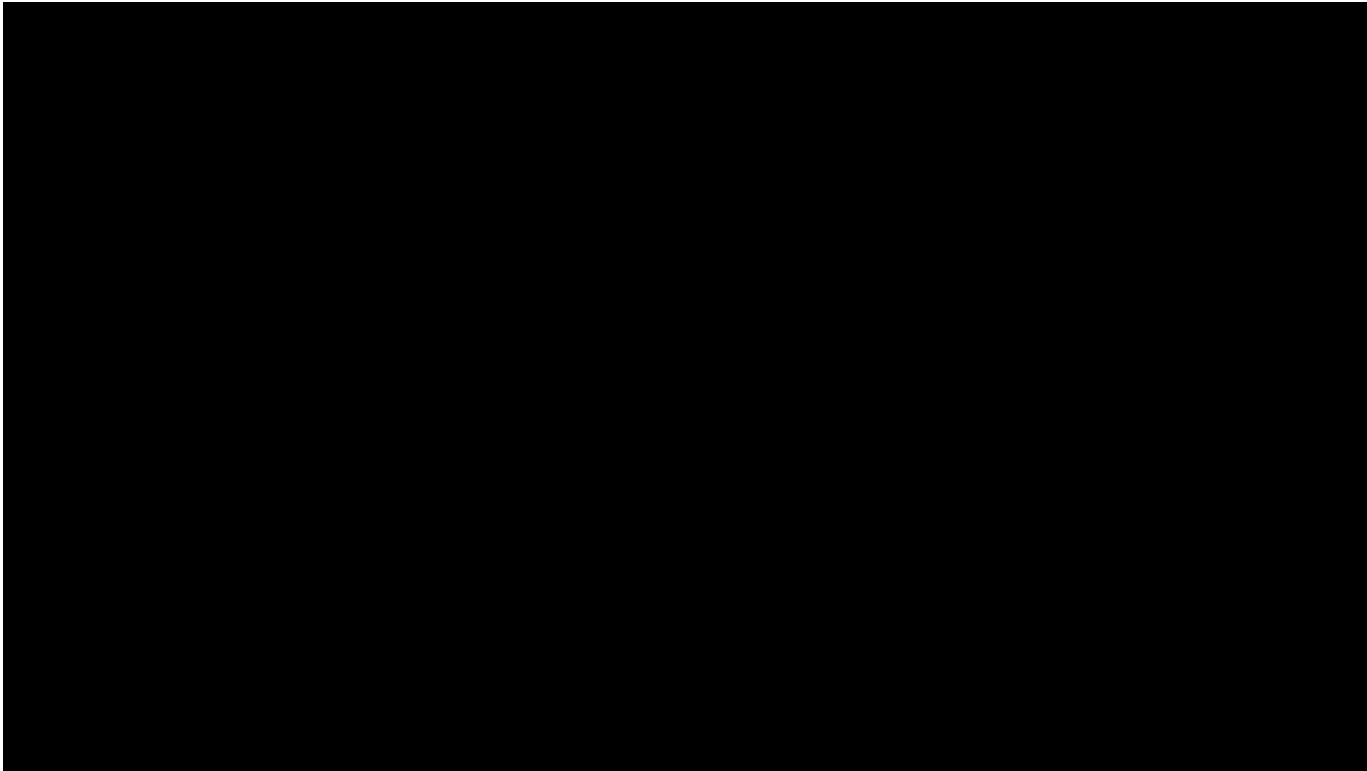
A Big Market with Tremendous Growing Potential



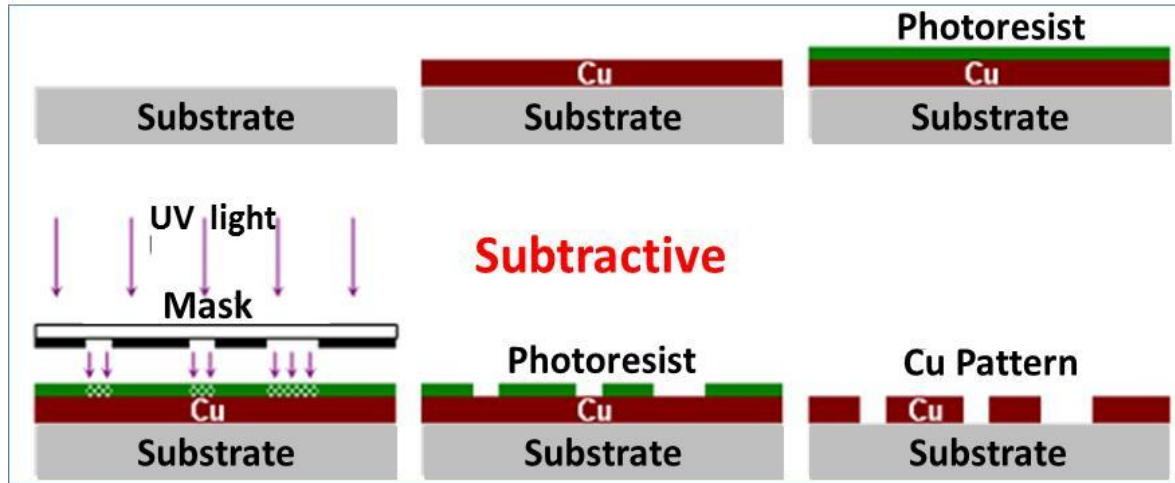
A recent report by IDTechEx predicts the PE market will reach \$330B in 2027

Printed Electronics: An Enabling Manufacturing Technology for Revolutionary Products

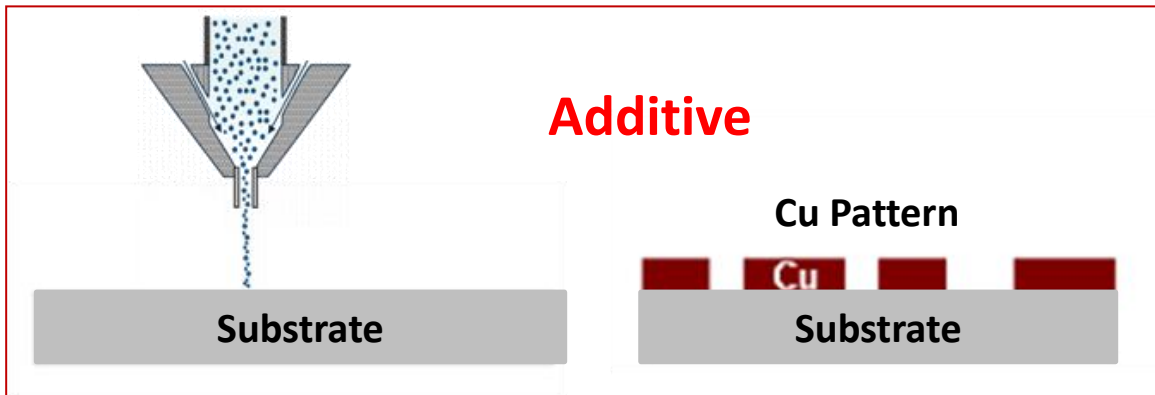
Nokia Concept Phone: *Morph*



Traditional CMOS vs. Direct Write PE

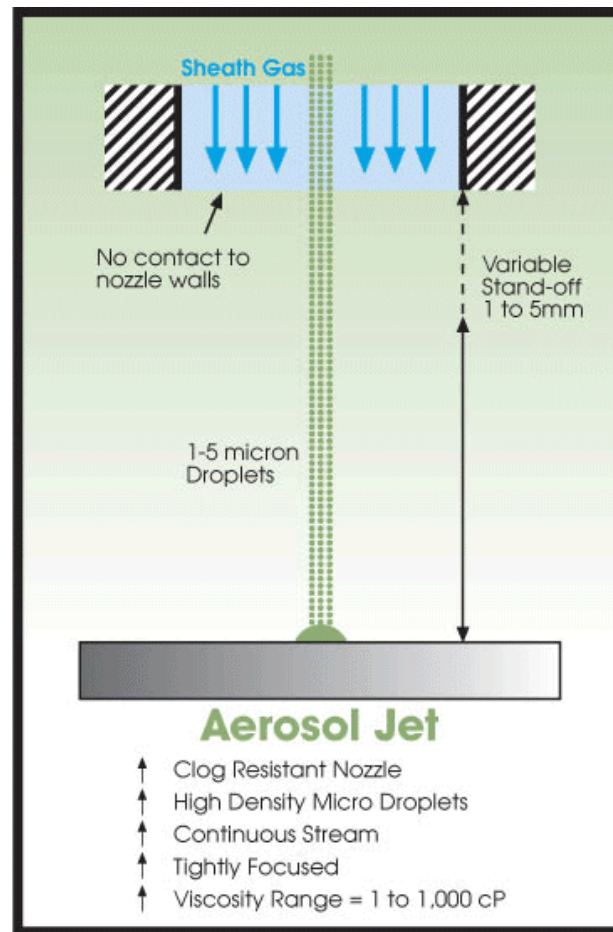
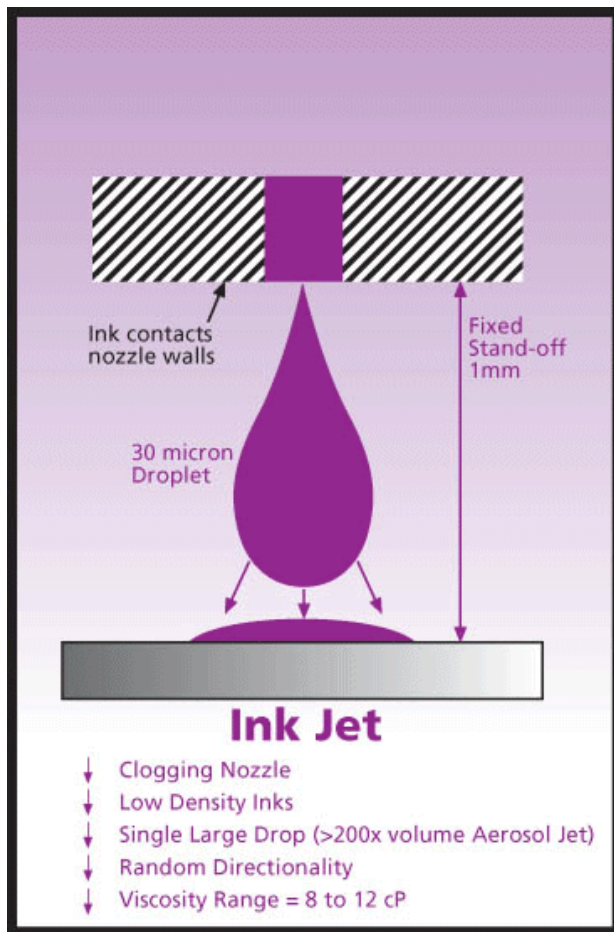


- High equipment investment
- Lengthy, complex process steps
- High production volume to justify equipment/process cost



- 3D curvature surfaces
- Rapid production
- Cost independent of production lot size
- Environmentally friendly

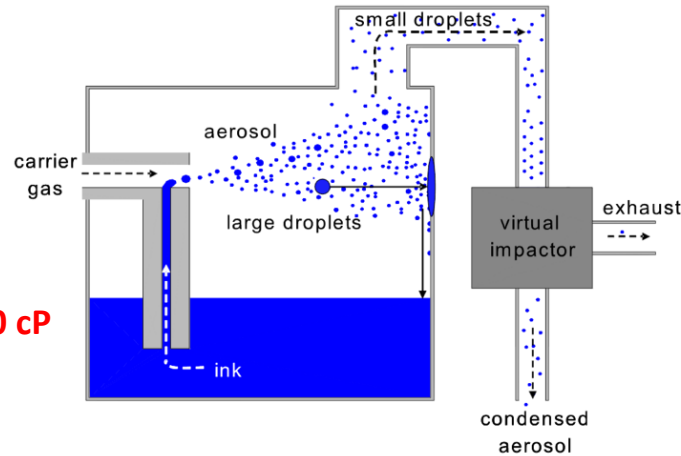
Two Commonly Used PE Processes: Ink Jet Printing and Aerosol Jet[®] Printing



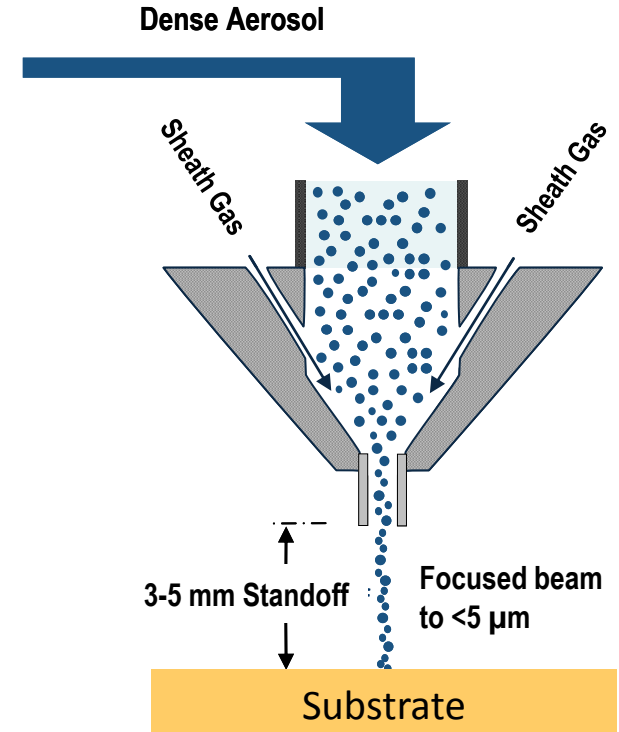
Aerosol Jet Printing Process

Pneumatic Atomization

Ink viscosity: 1-2,500 cP



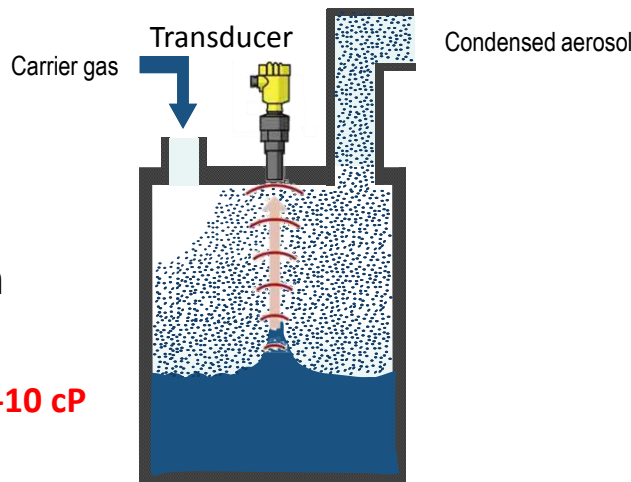
Printing Head



Nozzle Output:
Small Aerosol Droplets ~ 1-5um
Up to 0.25 microliter/sec dispensing speed
<10-150 µm line width printing capability

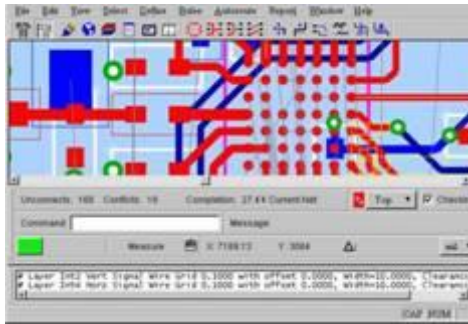
Ultrasonic Atomization

Ink viscosity: 0.7-10 cP



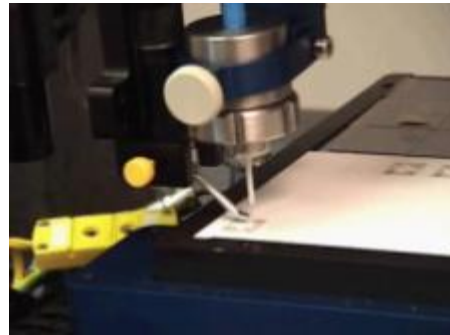
Aerosol Jet Process (Art to Part)

Design



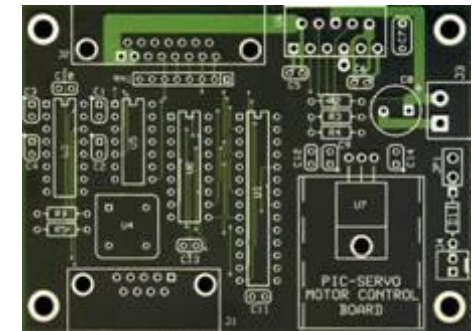
- CAD Model
- Convert to DWG file
- Tool paths generated with Optomec software

Process



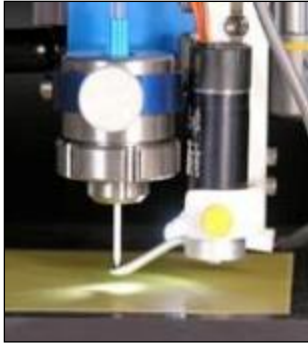
- Liquid raw material
- Create fine (femto Litre) aerosol
- Focus to tight beam (~10 μ m)
- Post-process (dry, cure, sinter, etc.)

Part



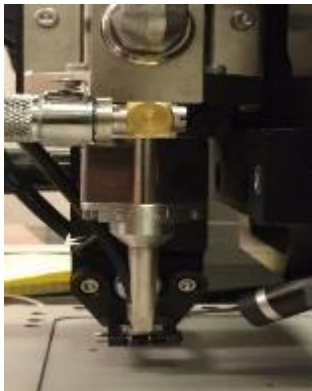
- Fine line traces
- Conformal printing
- Embedded passives
- Interconnects
- Coatings

AJP Deposition Process



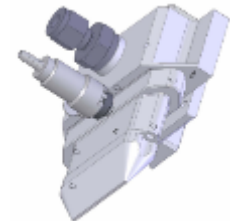
Fine Feature Printhead

- Fine Features from $\sim 10\mu\text{m}$ to $>200\mu\text{m}$
- Thicknesses ranging from 100nm to microns (material dep.)
- 5 interchangeable nozzle sizes
 - 100, 150, 200, 250, 300 μm
- Integrated dispense shutter



Wide Feature Printhead

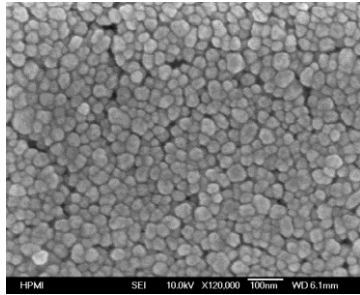
- Features from $\sim 500\mu\text{m}$ to $\sim 2.5\text{mm}$
- Thicknesses ranging from 100nm to microns (material dep.)
- 3 standard nozzle sizes
 - 0.75mm round, 1.5 & 3.0mm slotted
- Integrated dispense shutter



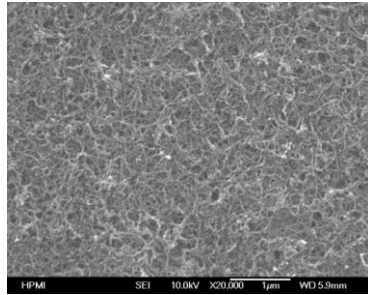
1 to 5cm Wide Nozzle Heads
(In Development)

Wide Ranges of Ink and Substrate Materials

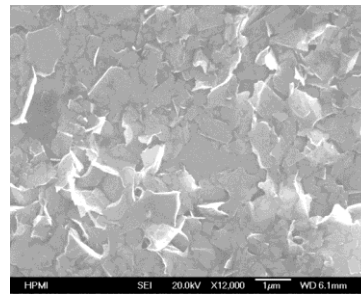
Inks



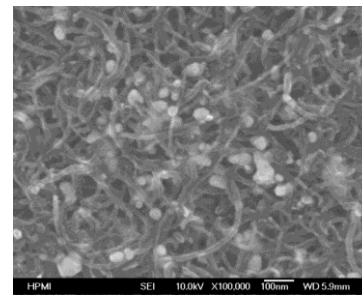
Metal NP



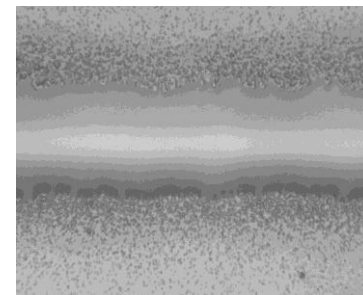
CNT



Graphite

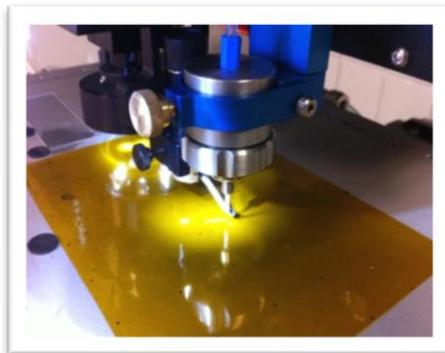


CNT/Silver NP

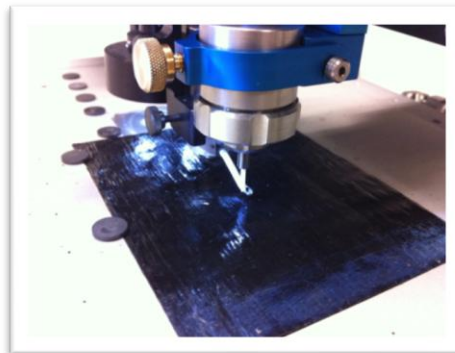


Polyimide

Substrates



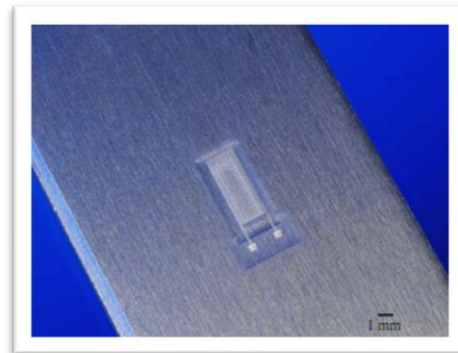
**Polyimide
(Flexible Films)**



**Carbon Fiber Prepreg
(Composites)**



3D Surface

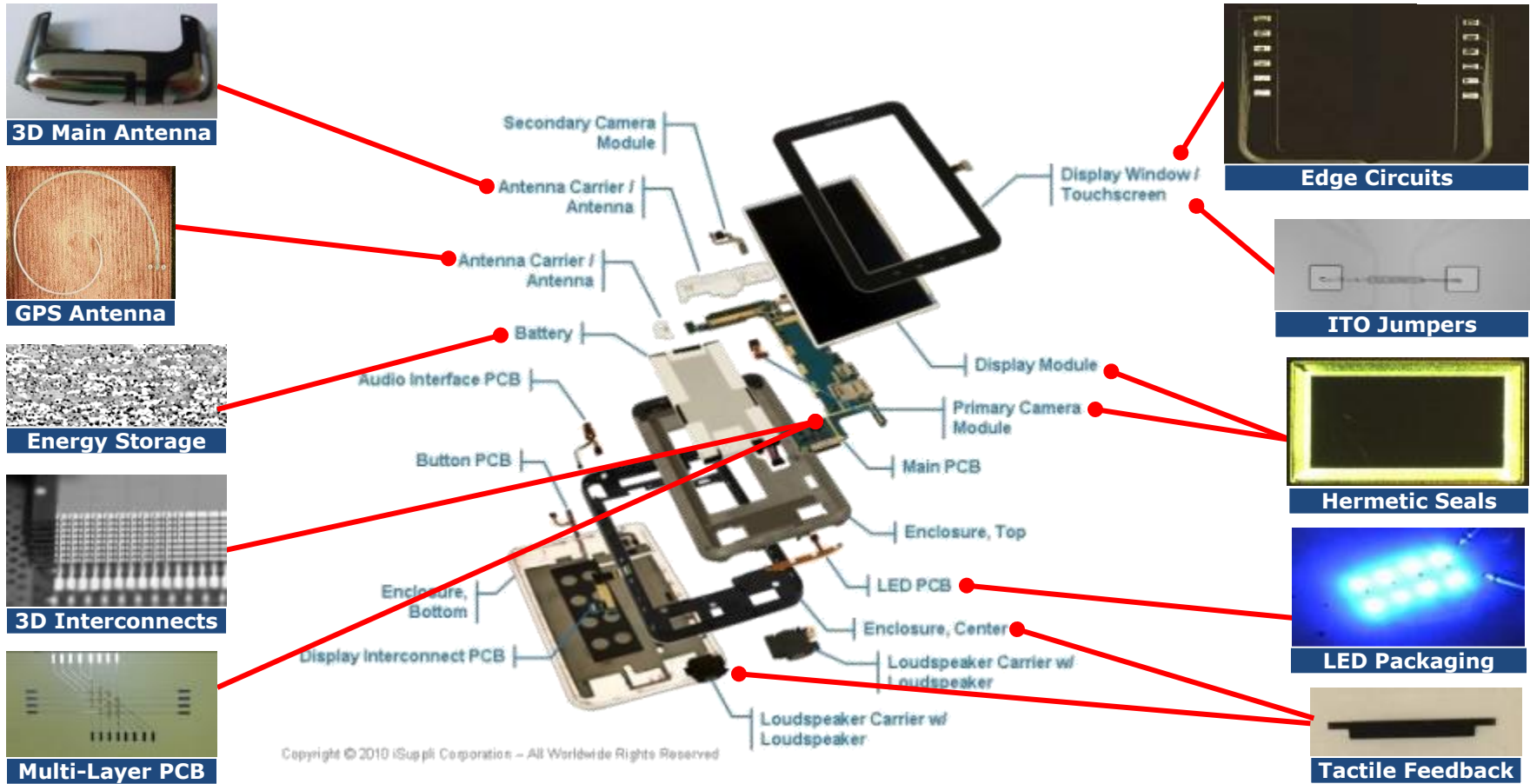


Metal

Ink Materials Availability

Metal Inks	Resistor Inks	Non-Metallic Conductors
An Cuig (Pt)	Acheson (carbon)	Brewer Science (SWCNTs)
Applied Nanotech (Ag, Cu, Ni, and Al)	Asahi (carbon)	Heraeus (PEDOT:PSS)
Clariant (Ag)	DuPont (carbon and ruthenate)	NanoIntegris (SWCNTs / MWCNTs)
DuPont (Ag)	Lord (carbon)	SouthWest Nano (SWCNTs / MWCNTs)
Henkel (AG)	Method Development (carbon)	Semiconductors
Intrinsiq (Cu)	Dielectrics and Adhesives	Aldrich (organic semiconductors)
Novacentrix (Ag, Cu)	Aldrich (polyimide)	Alfa (organic semiconductors)
Paru (Ag)	BASF (PVP)	Merck (organic semiconductors)
Resin Designs (AgE)	DuPont (Teon AF)	NanoIntegris (SWCNTs)
Sun Chemical (Ag)	Henkel (adhesives)	Reactive Chemistries
UTDots (Ag, Au, Pt)	Loctite (adhesives)	Rohm & Hass (Enlight)
Xerox (Ag)	Norland (UV adhesives)	Shipley (photo and etch resists)

Application Case: "Print Me a Phone" (The Economist)



Active customer projects in the above areas, and more...

Aerosol Jet: Early Adopter Examples

Smartphone Display Manufacturer

- MEMS Packaging:
 - Hermetic Seal Rings
 - **vs. Photolithography**
 - Less Cost
 - Higher Yield



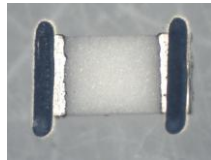
Smartphone OEM Supplier

- 3D Antenna - Smartphone/Tablet
 - **vs. LDS**
 - Lower Cost
 - Better Performance
 - More Environmental



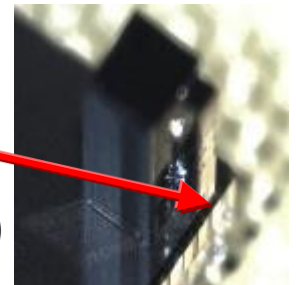
Defense Contractor

- Die/Component Attach
 - **vs. Dispensers**
 - Higher Density (50um)
 - Higher Yield
 - Recessed Substrates



Disk Drive Manufacturer

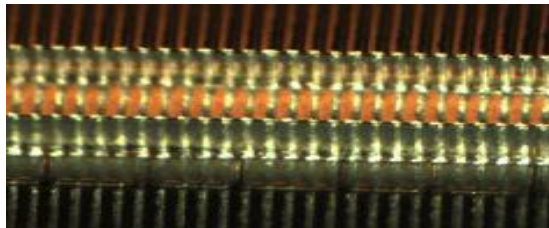
- Micro-Underfill
 - **vs. Dispensers**
 - Higher Density (15um)
 - High Standoff
 - Vertical Chips



Aerosol Jet: 3D Integration for Semi Packaging

- Stacked Die: Staggered Chips Conformal Interconnects

– vs. Wirebonding



25um / 50um 3D Interconnects

- Stacked Die: Aligned Chips Vertical Interconnects

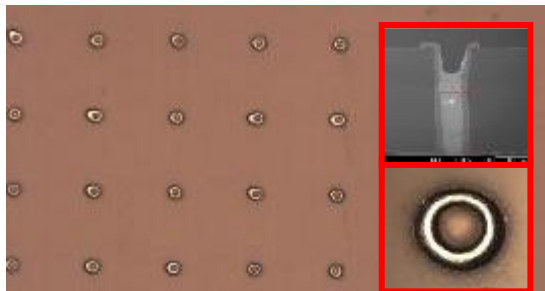
– vs. Wirebonding



25um / 100um Sidewall Interconnects

- Via Filling

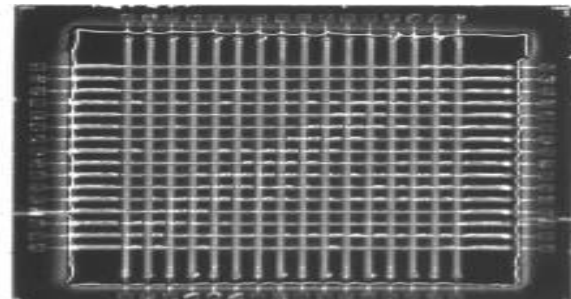
– vs. Plating



75um dia x 300um Deep

- Printed Interposer

– vs. Silicon (Wafer Processing)



3 Layer Cross-Over Circuit

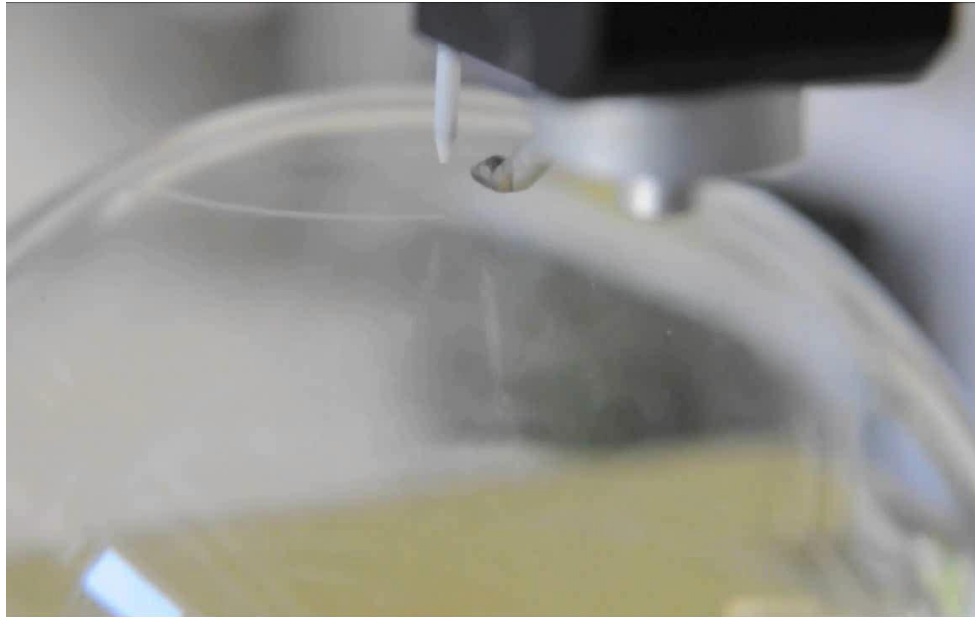
3D Printed Antenna: Video of Production System

- **Coordinated 5-axis capability, based on commercial CNC Machine Tool**
 - Software Utilities to assist with multi axes toolpath generation
 - Typically 2+1 or 3+2 Axes mode, enabled by AJ's insensitivity to stand-off/angle



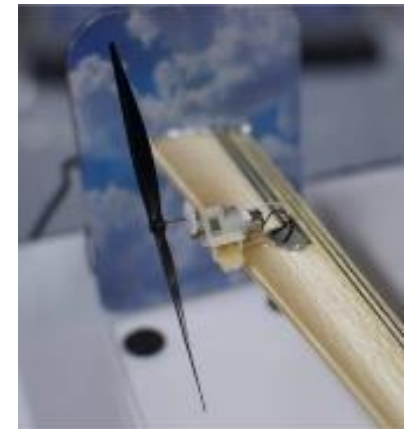
Functionalized 3D Plastic Parts: Defense

EMI Shielding Printed onto a Dome



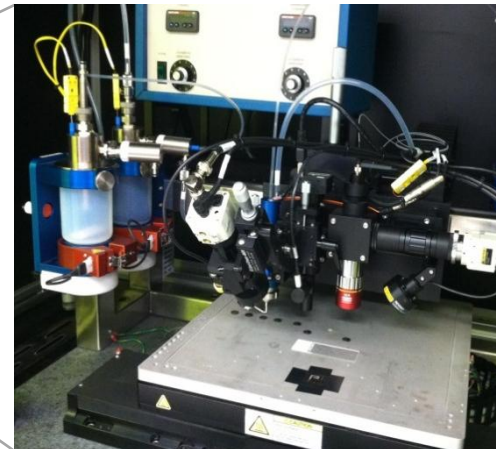
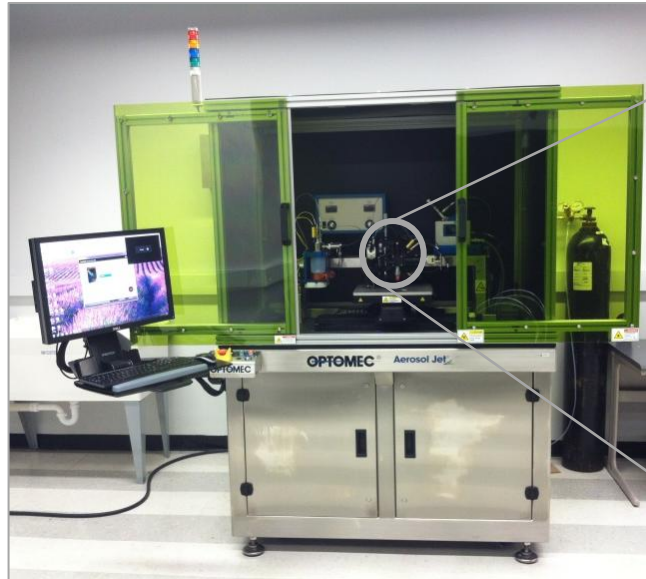
Functionalized 3D Plastic Parts: Aerospace

- **Joint Project of Aurora Flight Sciences, Optomec and Stratasy**
 - Fully Printed Wing Structure & Electronics
 - FDM Process Prints Wing using Aerospace Grade Material
 - Process Prints Sensor, RF Antenna and Power Circuits on Wing
 - Demonstrated at DMC Conference
- **Advantages**
 - Lighter Weight, Higher Performance
 - Conformal Electronics, More Payload
 - Fully Functional RP & RM
 - Simplified Electro-Mechanical Integration
 - Point of Use Repair + Reconfiguration

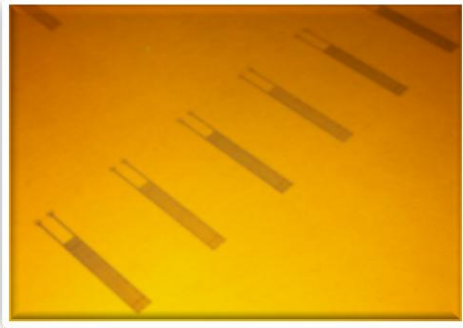


Aerosol Jet Printing Setup at GTMI

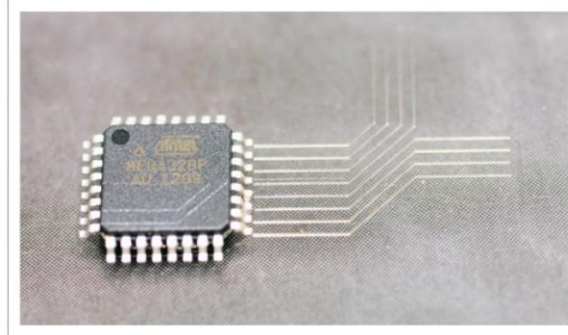
- An Optomec AJP-300 System was acquired and installed in March 2013
- Prototype printed electronics fabricated at GTMI with the AJP system include strain and temperature sensors, organic transistors/pressure sensors, high-sensitivity gas sensors, RFID tags, supercapacitors, and high frequency antenna



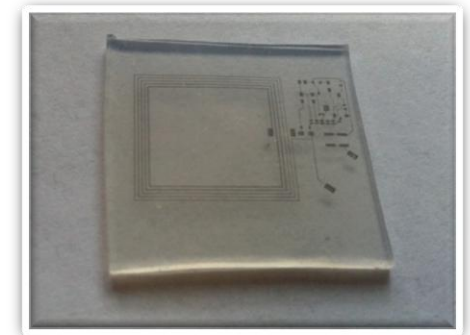
Prototypes/Samples Printed at GTMI



Strain sensor array printed with silver ink



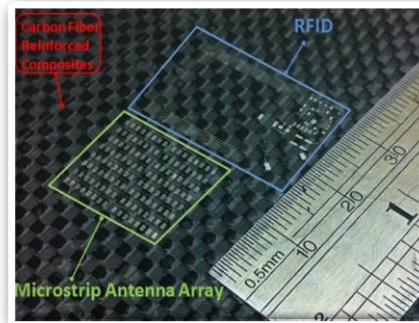
Interconnects linked with IC chip pins



RFID tag on silicone



Temperature sensor printed with carbon nanotubes



RFID tag and antenna array on carbon fiber prepreg

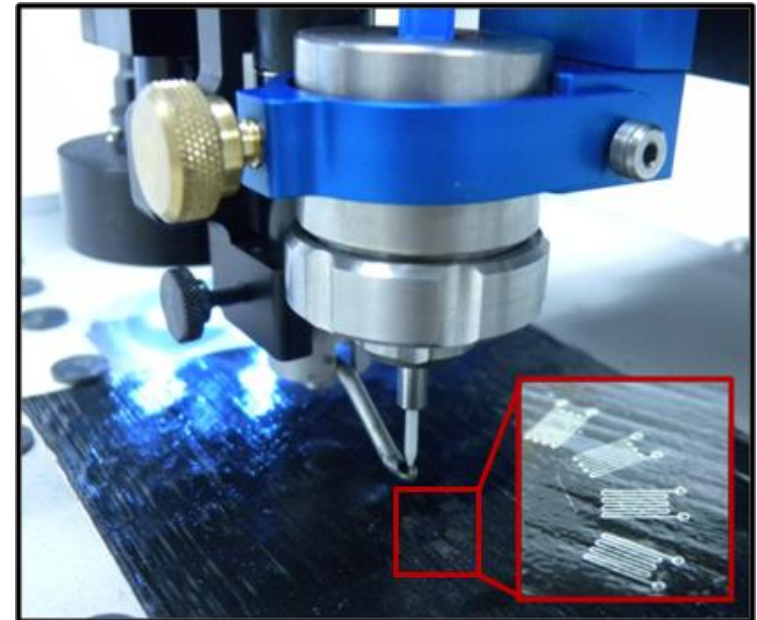


High frequency antenna

Application Case: Direct Printing of Sensors on Laminate for Composite Manufacturing Process and Finish Component Structural Health Monitoring

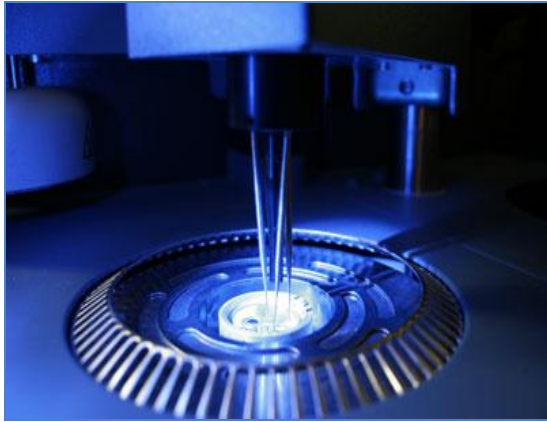
Objectives

- Print strain and temperature sensors directly on prepregs and embed them into composite laminates
- Investigate the effects of sensors embedment on composite mechanical properties
- Monitoring of manufacturing process and structural health of composites with printed sensors

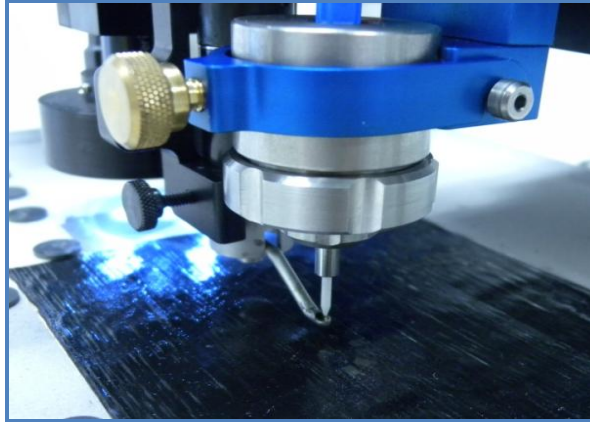


- Prepregs: unidirectional carbon fiber/epoxy

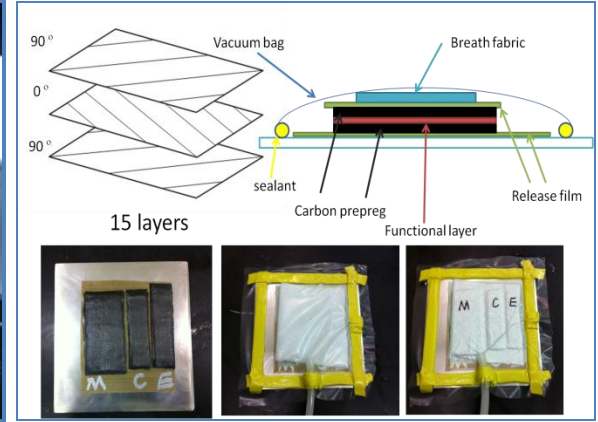
Experimental Procedure



Prepreg preparation



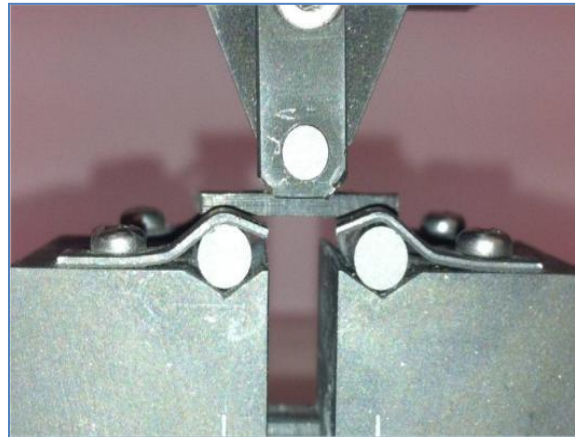
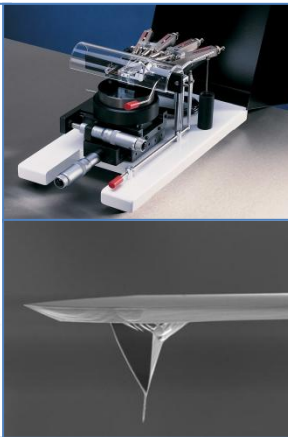
Sensor printing



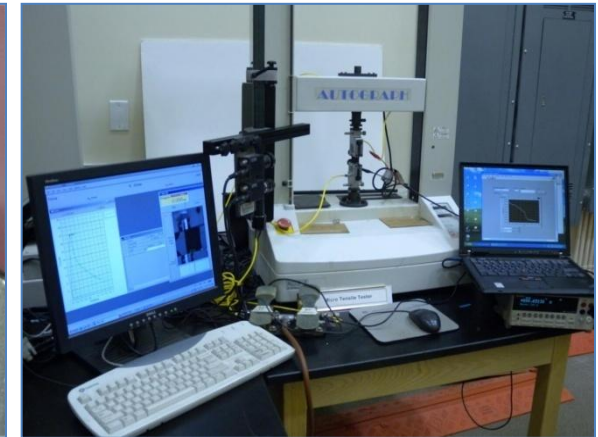
Composites fabrication



Printing quality



Mechanical Integrity

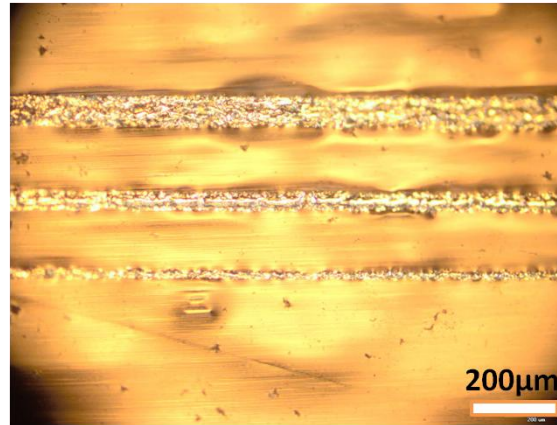


Sensing performance

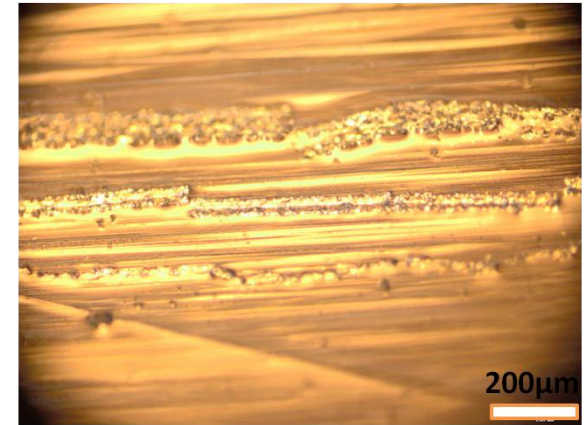
Effect of Curing on AJP Sensors

Printed lines on raw prepreg:

- Poor printing quality
- Patterns washed out



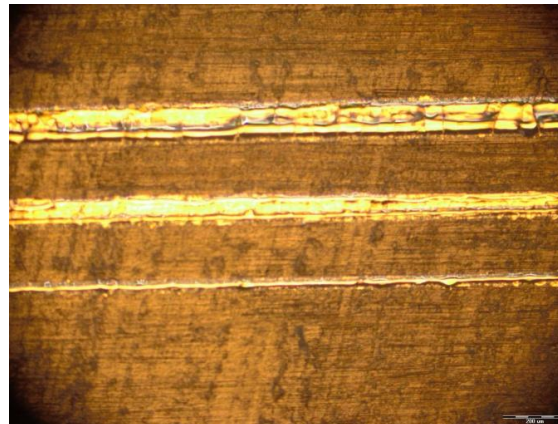
Before curing



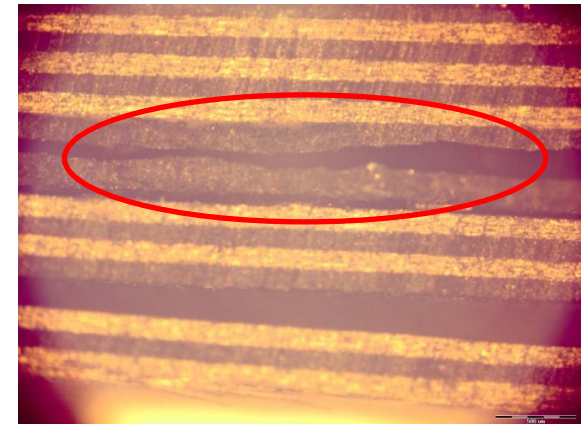
After curing

Printed lines on fully-cured prepreg

- Mech. degradation
- Delamination



After curing



Cross-section of composites with embedded printed layers

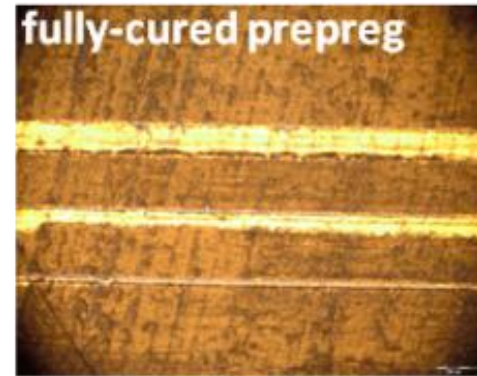
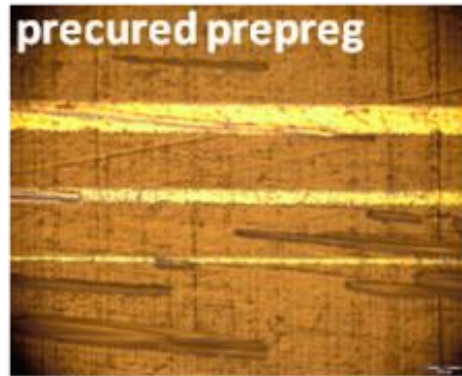
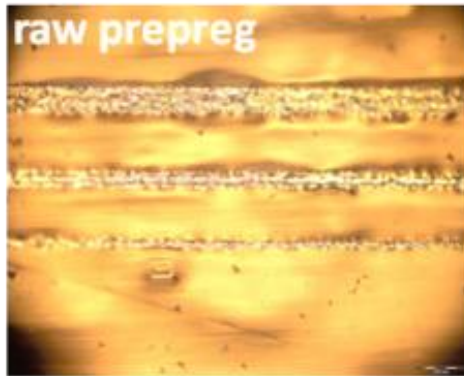
Printing Quality on Different Substrates

Raw prepreg:
no precuring

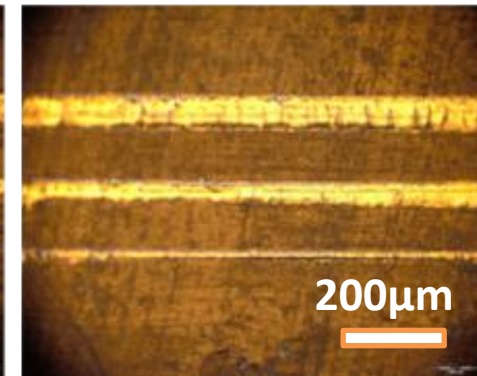
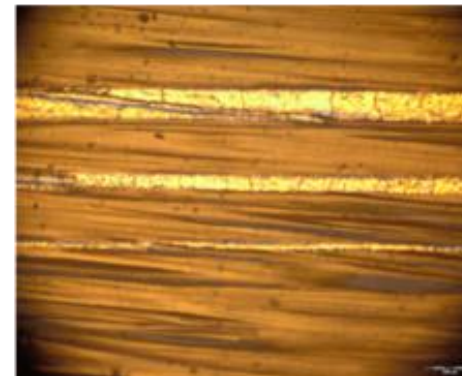
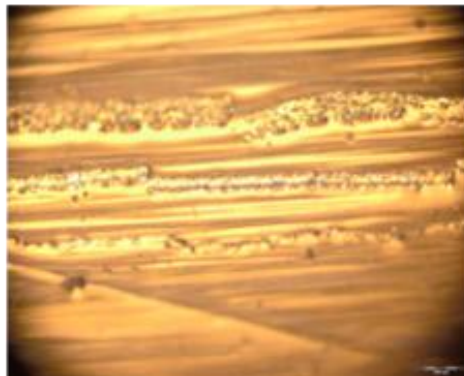
Precured prepreg:
10 min, 180°C

Fully-cured prepreg:
360 min, 180°C

Before curing



After curing



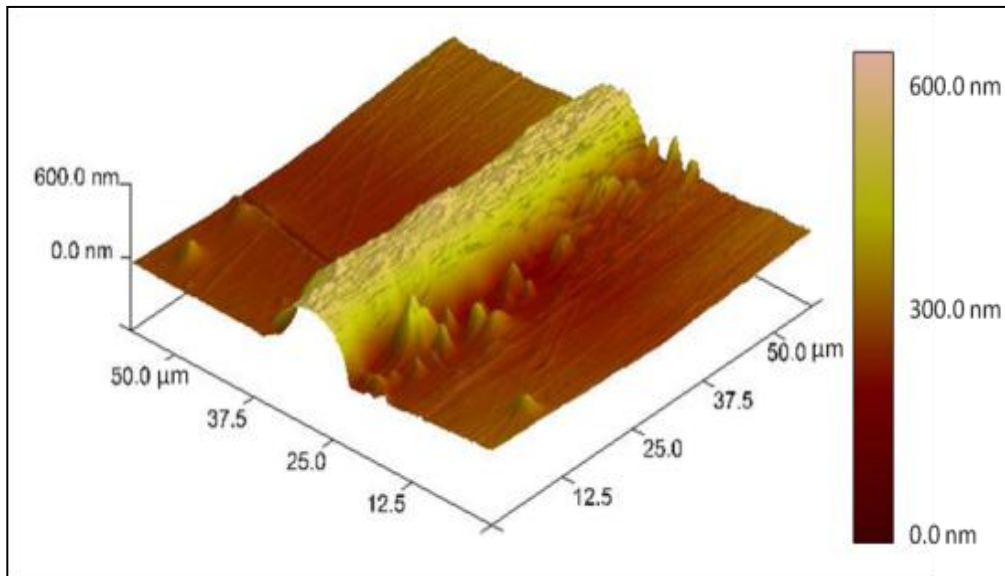
Poor sensing
performance

Acceptable sensing
capability with unaffected
mechanical performance

Compromised
Mechanical
performance

AFM and Electrical Resistivity Measurements

Sample Type	Mean Electrical Resistivity ($10^{-6}\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$)
1. Printed line on raw (0%) prepreg	Printed lines washed out
2. Printed line on fully-cured (100%) prepreg	5.5 ± 0.4
3. Printed line on pre-cured (10%) prepreg	12.7 ± 1.4

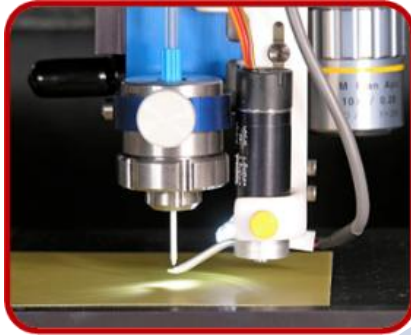


Takeaway

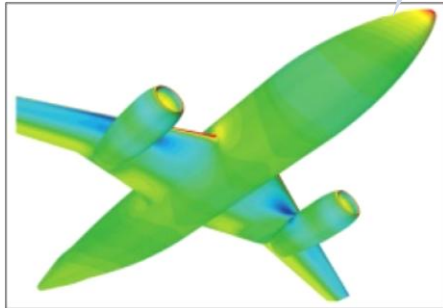
10% pre-cure resulted in certain, but acceptable, loss in electrical conductivity

Ultimate Goal: Integrated Composite Design, Manufacturing Process Monitoring and Service with Printed Electronics

Embedded Printed Sensors in Composites



Finished Product Structural Health Monitoring



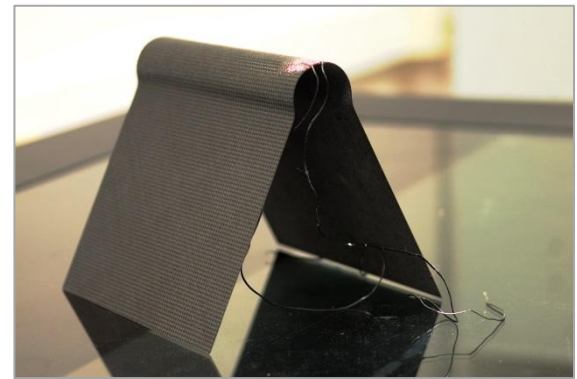
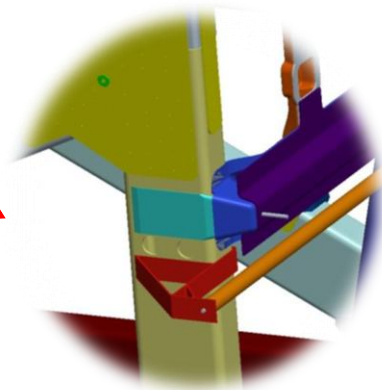
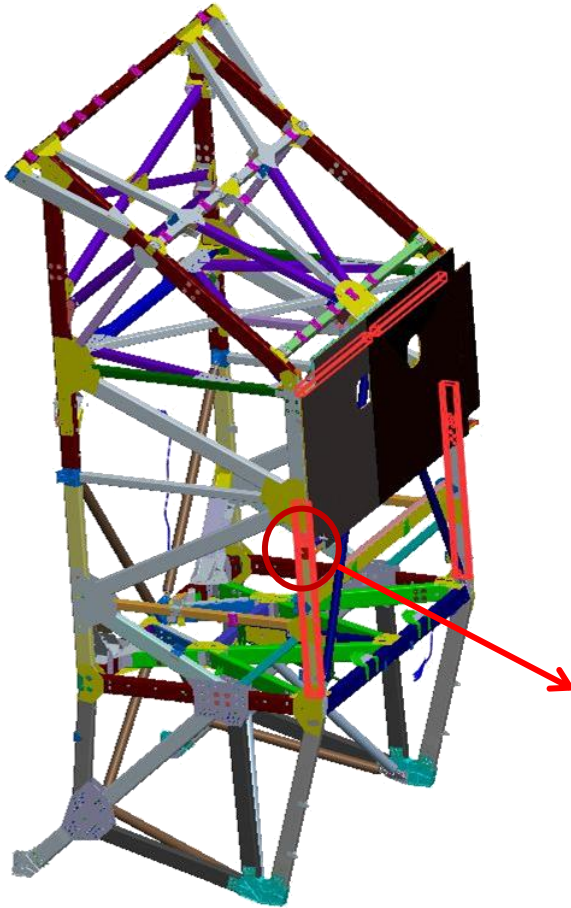
Design Model Validation



Manufacturing Process Monitoring

Design Validation of Composite Space Structures with Embedded Strain Sensors

- Carbon fiber composite hinge for deployable radiator
- Three AJP strain sensors embedded in the hinge for design optimization and FEA model validation
- Testing under various mechanical and temperature loadings



Prototype composite hinge with embedded strain sensors

Application Case: Fabrication of CNT-based High Sensitivity Sensors for Standoff Chemical Vapor Detection

*In collaboration with Dr. Judy Song, Electro-Optical Systems Lab,
Georgia Tech Research Institute*

Motivation

- **Long-term monitoring of chemical vapors**
 - Ammonia, hydrazine, chemical warfare agents, etc.
- **Standoff detection**
- **Low vapor pressure of explosives requires high sensitivity**
 - 10 ppb for TNT, 10 ppt for explosives (RDX, PETN)
- **Deployed on buildings, vehicles, clothing, tickets**
 - Low cost, small size

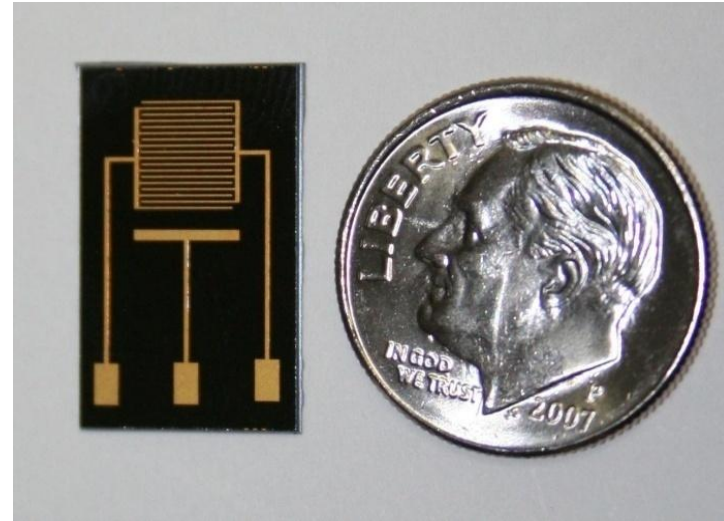
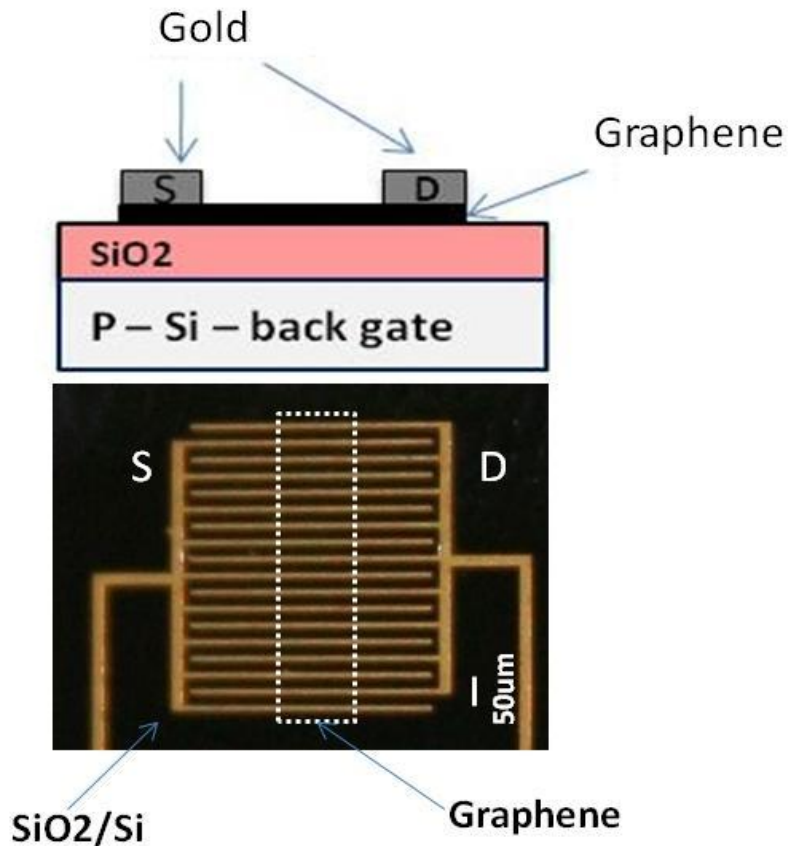
Nanomaterials-Based Sensors

- **Benefits of carbon nano-materials for sensing**
 - Ambient temperature operation
 - Low cost fabrication
 - Specificity to particular gas (functionalization and/or sensor array)
 - Sensor reverts back once the reaction is complete
 - Easy integration with electronics (antennas, RF modules)
 - Standoff detection using wireless operation
- **Passive (battery-free) sensor operation**
 - Small size, low-cost, no maintenance
- **Interrogation distance up to 100m+ feasible**

Challenges for Trace Detection

- **Low vapor pressure of explosives makes sensing difficult**
 - **10 parts per billion for TNT**
 - **10 parts per trillion for RDX, PETN**
- **Require high sensitivity to detect vapors**
- **Interference in background (selectivity)**
- **Standoff range limited by power and technology**

Prototype Device



- Two or three terminal device
- Chemiresistor and/or impedance measurement
- Currently applied to detect chemical compounds and radiation

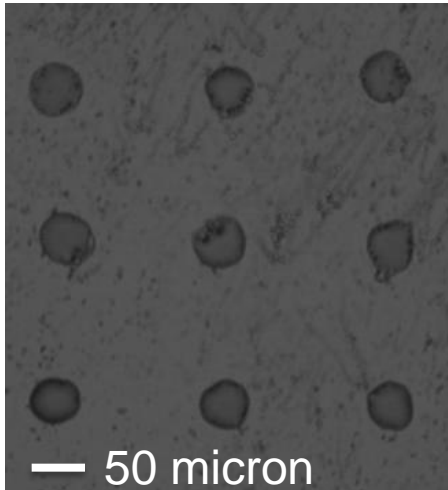
Nanomaterial-based Chemresistor Characteristics

- **Sensitive**
 - **Up to 50 parts per billion**
- **Selective**
 - **Functions in the presence of contaminants**
- **Quick-response**
 - **Less than 1 second in exposure**
- **Reversible**
 - **Reverts back to original state**
- **Repeatable**
 - **Same response over time**

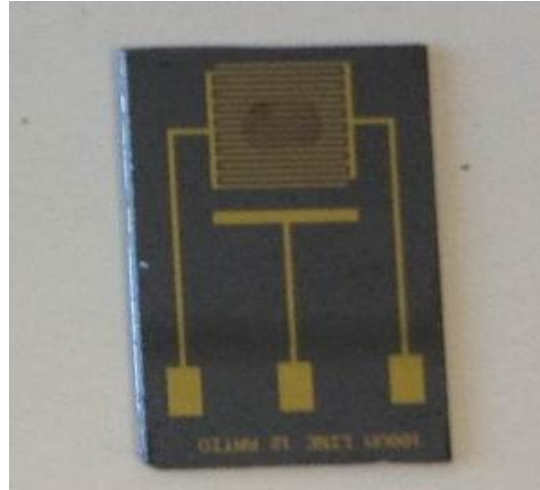
Nanomaterial Sensing Film Fabrication Methods Comparison

Fabrication Method	CNT Dispersion Viscosity Requirement	Process Requirements	Repeatability Quality Control	Cost
Brush Painting	None	Chemical Hood long curing time	Personnel dependent, relative lack of control	Labor
Air Spray Coating	Prefers Medium to High Viscosity Solution	Chemical Hood Face Mask & Mask for Device	Solution concentration Air pressure Spray Nozzle Selection	Labor
Spin Coating	Prefers High Viscosity Solution	Chemical Hood Mask for Device	Solution concentration High Speed Control (RPM)	Equipment
Dip Coating	Prefers High Viscosity Solution	Chemical Hood Mask for Device	Solution concentration Motor Speed Control (RPM)	Labor
Ink Jet Printing	Prefers Medium to High Viscosity Solution	Chemical Hood	Solution concentration Ink Jet Nozzle Clogging	Equipment

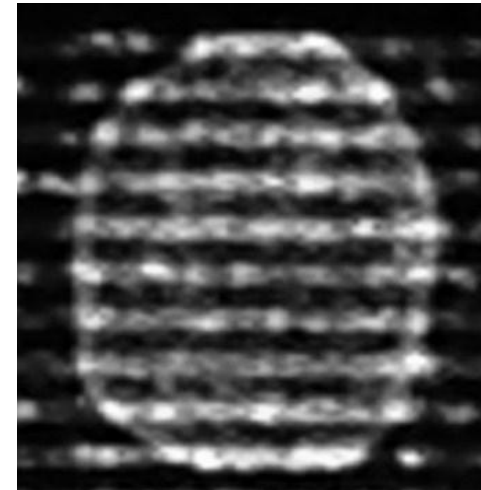
Ink-Jet Printing Results



**Ink-jet printing pattern
3 x 3 array**

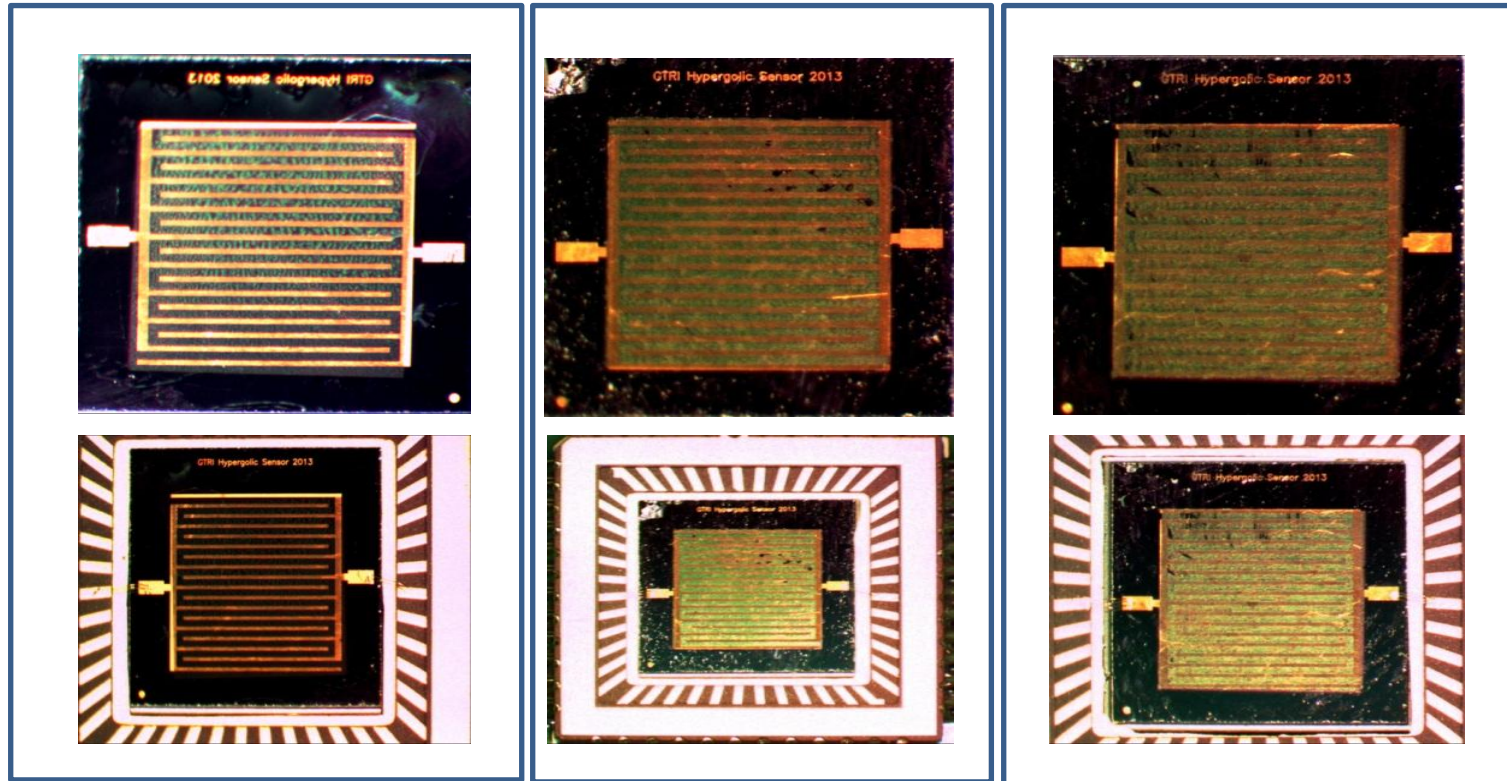


**Ink-jet printed
Interdigitated Electrode
(IDE) Sensor**



**Optical Phtography
of the ink-jet printed
sensing film**

Aerosol Jet Printed Sensing Film



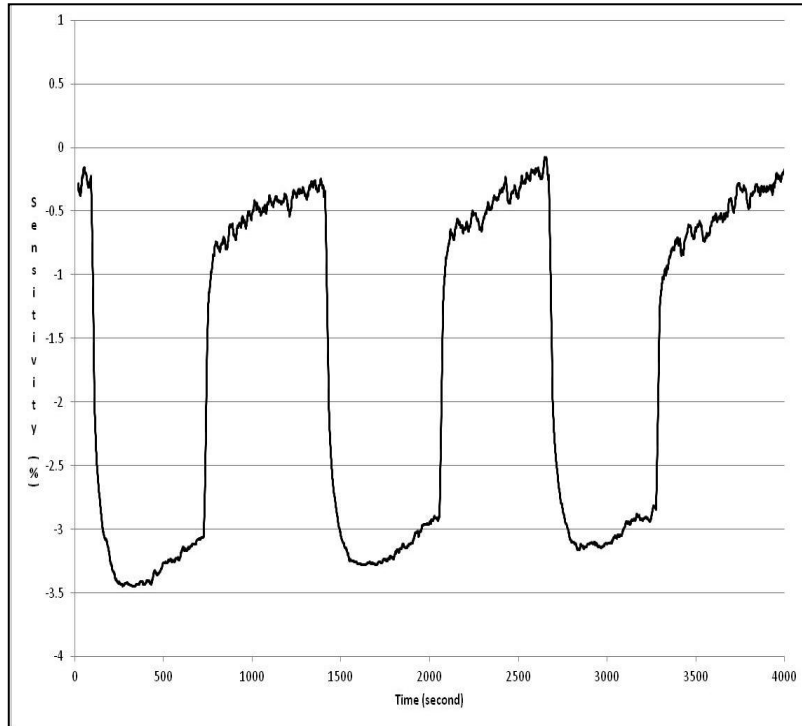
Sensor #1

Sensor #2

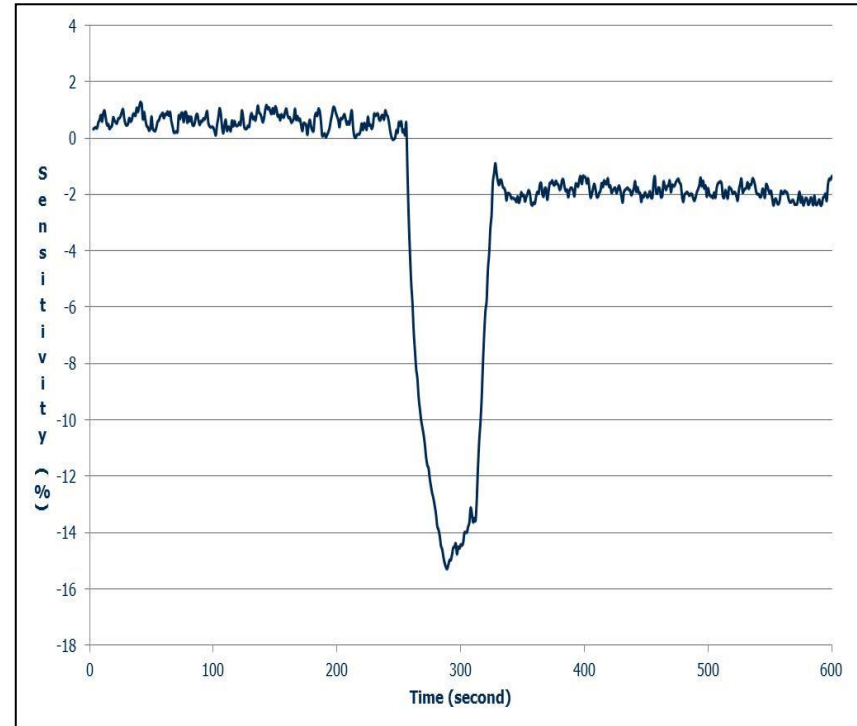
Sensor #3

***Aerosol jet printed sensing film on pre-fabricated interdigitated electrodes (top).
Wirebonding completed sensor packages (bottom).***

NO₂ Gas Sensing Comparison



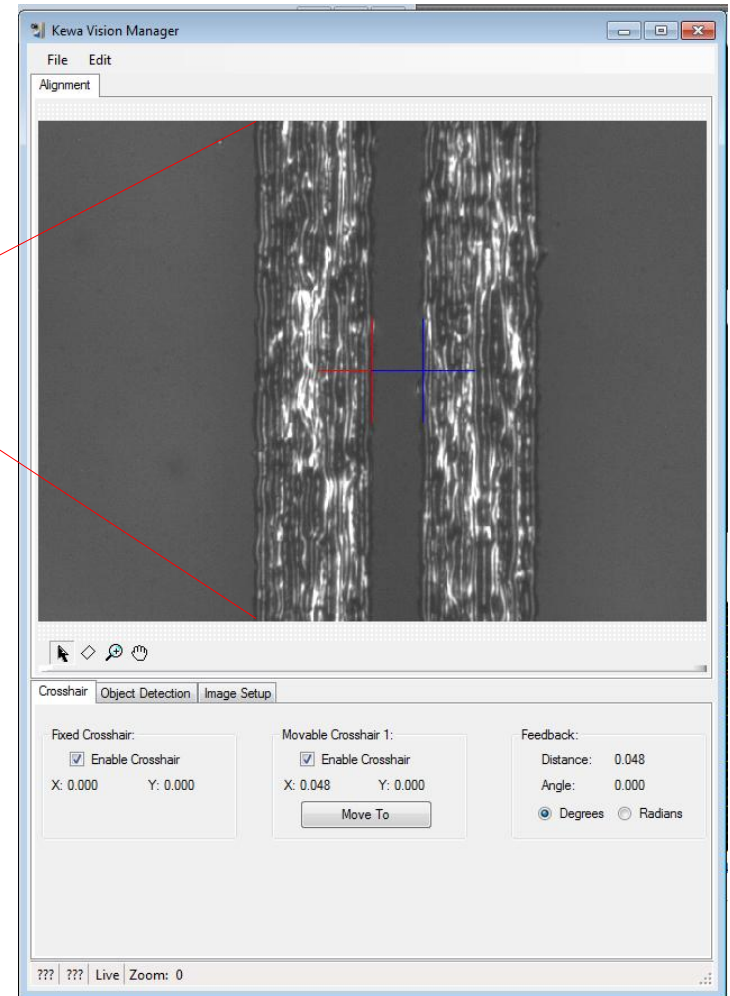
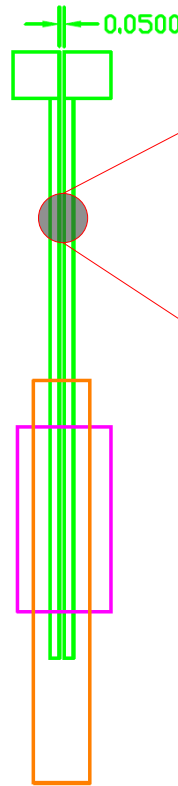
Ink-jet printed sensing for 50 ppm
NO₂ gas (**~3.5%**)



Aero-sol jet printed sensing for 20
ppm NO₂ gas (**~15%**)

Ongoing Project: Printing of Organic Transistors

- Uniform gate distance and low line edge roughness are required for good transistor performance
- Multilayer and multi-material deposition is needed
- AJP organic transistors performed better than those made by ink jet printing
- GTMI is developing process monitoring and control methods for improving printed line quality

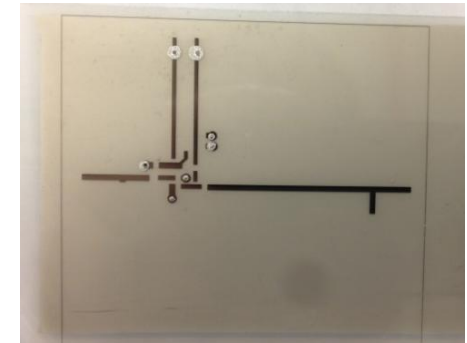


Ongoing Project: Printing of 2.4 GHz Antenna

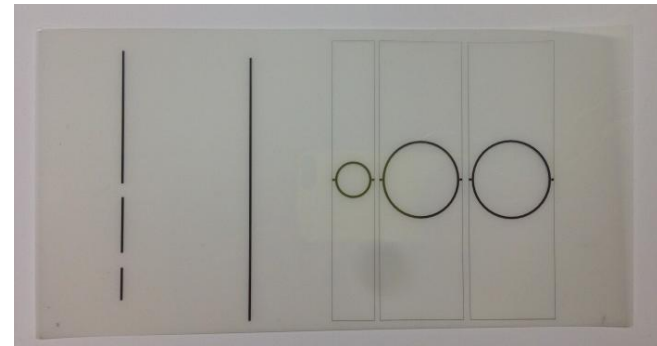
- Fast and cost effective manufacturing compared to conventional lithography process
- Conformal antenna on various surfaces
- Low temperature processing suitable for polymer substrates
- Performance matching simulation results



Printed Antenna

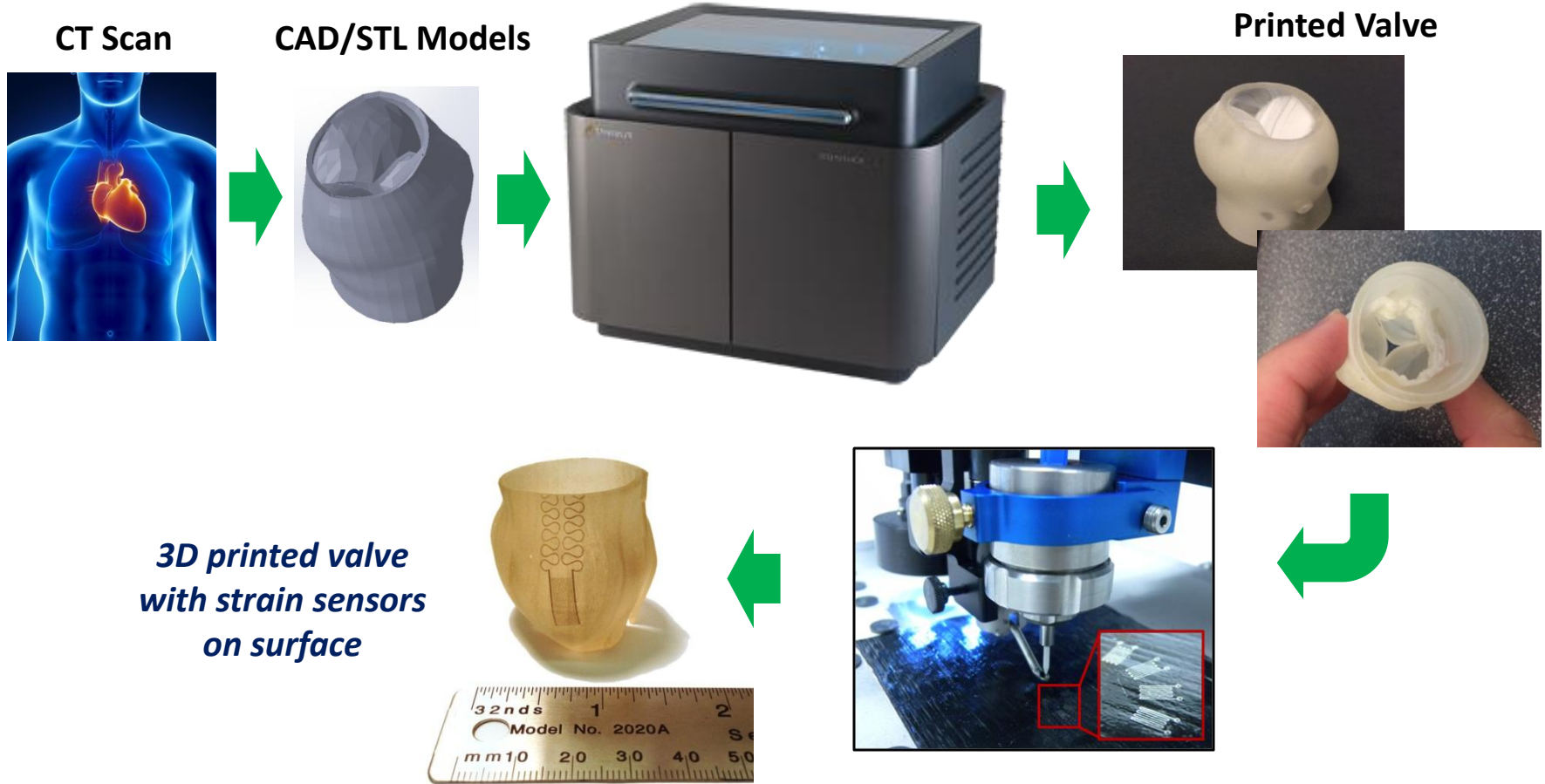


Amplifier Circuit



Transmission Line &
Ring Oscillator

Integration of 3D Printing and Printed Electronics Technologies for Medical Applications



Technical Issues and Challenges for PE Manufacturing and Applications

- **Ink and Substrate Materials**
 - Ink performance during printing and curing, wetting and adhesion between ink and substrate, biocompatibility
 - Volume manufacturing
- **Manufacturing Process Monitoring and Control**
 - Process modeling, simulation and optimization (ICME)
 - Monitoring and control of key process parameters
 - Metrology and QC for PE
- **Scalable Manufacturing**
 - Scalable for production, not just prototyping
 - Complimentary to and integrated with existing manufacturing processes

Technical Issues and Challenges for PE Manufacturing and Applications (Cont'd)

- **Reliability and Durability of Printed Devices**
 - Nanoparticles behavior during service
 - Environmental stability
- **Software Issues**
 - Integration of mechanical and electronic design software for PE
- **Integration of PE and 3D Printing**
 - Effective algorithms for integrated PE and 3D printing
 - Compatibility of ink and 3D printed surfaces
 - Equipment with integrated PE and 3D printing capabilities

Acknowledgement

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 - Dr. Bernard Kippelen, GT-ECE
 - Dr. John Papapolymero, GT-ECE
 - Dr. Judy Song, GTRI
 - Dr. Ben Wang, GT ISyE and GTMI

Questions & Comments

Thanks!

Chuck Zhang

Tel: (404) 894-3280

Email: chuck.zhang@isye.gatech.edu