

Electronics at the Edge: Flexible, Hybrid and Additive Approaches to Medical and Industrial Devices

Flexible and hybrid electronics (FHE) combine additively printed electronics on bendable, flexible, or highly stretchable substrates with the performance of thinned silicon-based semiconductors to enable applications that include wearable medical devices and industry sensors. This presentation will review the design and fabrication challenges associated with interfacing hard and soft electronic components, sustainability and materials selection, printing, processing, and testing of FHE systems. Enabling features include the use of highly stretchable conductors, fluid transport and analysis, printed RF devices, power conversion, and efforts to enable use at extreme conditions that include high temperature, power and current operation will be described. Device “concepts of operation” will guide the evaluation of performance and reliability. Outcomes from this work are expected to inform the eventual scale-up to large area, roll-to-roll manufacturing or integration on complex, non-planar surfaces, and solids.



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