European Network on New Sensing Technologies for Air Pollution Control and Environmental Sustainability - *EuNetAir* COST Action TD1105

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DISPOSABLE SENSORS AND INSTRUMENTS FOR AIR QUALITY MONITORING



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Advanced gas sensing technologies



Green manufacturing

Disposability: plastic, paper, biodegradable materials



flexible source: Plasticlogic

large area

source:

Princeton University



foldable source: Swedish ICT



conformal source: SEMICONWEST 2012





lower costs

source: GSA





Green manufacturing

Localised patterning of materials outside cleanroom





EPFL-EnviroMEMS

- Large area manufacturing on foil (S2S, R2R)
- Additive processes, i.e. printing
- Environmentally friendly materials
 - Water based inks
 - Recyclable substrate (PET, Paper, PLA...)





Smart sensing systems on foil



 Integration of components on foil



SMD and bare dies on PET



Foil to foil integration



Outline

- Polymeric analytical instruments
- Printed sensors
- Biodegradable sensors technology
- Conclusion



Analytical instruments

• Architecture of our foil micro-analyzer



Rolling up of printed micro-hotplates



Schematic view of the rolling up and filling of a printed Gold micro-hotplate



Picture of a rolled micro-hotplate with electric wires

Materials

- Ceramic glue: sealing the rolled up micro-hotplate
- Adsorbent: carbopack B and Tenax polymer
- Glass fibers: plugging inlet and outlet of rolled device
- Conductive adhesive: Connection with electric wires

FGP can welcome arious adsorbents i.e. targeting different gases.

Fluidic interconnects



Schematic view of FGP in its final stage with adsorbent and fluidic capillary



Picture of FGP in its final stage with adsorbent, fluidic capillary and electric wires

Materials

- Teflon tubes: fluidic capillaries of 2mm of internal diameter
- Ceramic glue: high temperature operating device

Inlet and outlet are adjustable during the rolling up for reaching high flow rates

• Fluidic characterisation



Flow Vs Pressure for a FGP filled with 1 mg of carbopack B compared with and two empty silicon GPs and metallic capillary, respectively.

The pressure drop observed with our FGP is mainly due to the metallic capillary used to connect the FGP to the test bench.

Preconcentration under benzene



Six desorption peaks from a FGP filled with 1mg of Carbopack B when exposed to 250 ppb of benzene (60, 10 and 5s) and desorbed with flow rates (Df) of 83 and 66 mL/min, respectively

Desorption peak from a FGP filled with 1mg of Carbopack B when exposed to 250 ppb@1min of benzene (60, 10 and 5s) and desorbed with a flow rate of 66 mL/min

- A PF of 56 is obtained for only 1 min of adsorption (for Silicon : 10 min)
- An adsorption time down 10s is also conceivable for lowering the duty cycle.

Multisensing platform: H₂O, T°C, gases

Inkjet-printed gas multisensing platforms on foil: fabrication



Printed micro-hotplates

- Design and fabrication
 - Printed Ag + electroplated Ni heaters
 - Laminated 14 µm dry foil resist as interdielectric
 - Printed Ag + electroplated gold electrodes
 - Heater resistance: $36 \pm 3 \Omega$
 - Sensing area: 1 x 1 mm²
 - Sensing layer:
 - Polyaniline doped with poly (4-styrenesulfonic acid)
 - Vapor-phase deposition polymerization



Schematic view of µ-hotplates.



Optical top view of µ-hotplates.

Chemoresistive NH₃ sensor





Printing metal-oxide sensors on foil

- Printing of hotplate transducers
- Printing of metal-oxide films

Challenges Polymeric foil have low Tg Printing resolution

For higher temperature of operation:

- More stable metal: Gold
- Temperature resistant foil: Polyimide



Fully printed SnO₂ sensor

• Gold printed transducer on Upilex (PI) foil









Fully printed SnO₂ sensor

Stack of printed layers

Inkjet SnO₂ and WO₃ NPs





On biodegradable substrates low Tg (56°C) poly lactic acid (PLA)
→ detection of humidity and temperature

c)

- Printing of Ag and Au inks
- Photonic sintering





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• Printed organic TFTs on poly lactic acid substrate



Transistors

- Thin film & electrochemical
- PLA as substrate & gate dielectric



Collaboration with Prof. K. Persaud, UMAN, UK





MANCHESTE

Gate functionalisation with odorant binding proteins



Ids – *Vgs* curves acquired before and after exposure to saturated vapours of the analyte (ambient conditions).



• Inkjet printing on paper substrate



V.C

200 µm



J. Courbat et al., Transducers 2011 / G. Mattana et al., EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

• Rochelle salt / paper composite piezoelectric material





- **Solution processed**
- Biocompatible
- Biodegradable



Conclusions

 Polymeric and printed sensing components for environmental monitoring were presented

Benefits:

- Potentially low-cost
- Flexible
- Towards green tech i.e. manufacturing + end of life

Suitable for disposable sensors

- Smart cards
- Reusable smart labels
- Single use / distributed preconcentrators
 - Towards micro-analytical instruments

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Thank you for your attention



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Photonic flash sintering



Photonic flash sintering (Xenon lamp)

- 200 1500 nm
- Flash duration controlled by pulses (µsec)
- Energy: 3000-5000 mJ/cm²
- Absorption of metal much higher than substrate: Substrate remains at low T°C



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Photonic flash sintering

- On transparent polymeric substrates
 - Photonic sintering (1 to 5 J/cm²)





- High temperature processing removes excess solvent and enhances sintering.
- Substrate is undamaged.
- Pulse conditions (>10 parameters) are carefully tuned to each material application.