

Fraunhofer and the universities





Fraunhofer ENAS and Center for Microtechnologies (ZfM) at TU Chemnitz

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Cluster of clean rooms at ZfM: 1000 m², 300 m² of them are class ISO 4 Fraunhofer ENAS: 1400 m² of laboratories, 400 m² of them with improved cleanness

Main Working Field – Smart Systems Integration

- Self-sufficient intelligent technical systems or subsystems with advanced functionality
- Combine sensing, actuation and data processing, informatics / communication
- Autonomous systems
- Highly reliable, often miniaturized, predictive, linked in networks
- Their operation being further enhanced by their ability to mutually address, identify and work in consortia
- → Basic components for the Internet of Things



Business Units of Fraunhofer ENAS

Process, Device and Packaging Technologies

- Modeling and simulation of technological processes and devices
- Micro- and nanotechnological processes
- 3D / MEMS Packaging
- MEMS technology platforms
- Nanotechnology components and systems

Intelligent Sensor and Actuator Systems

- Inertial Components and Systems
- Microfluidics for Lab-on-a-Chip Systems
- Optical Components and Systems
- Hybrid and Wireless Sensors and Systems
- RF Components and Systems

Systems and Applications

- Technologies
- Methodologies
- Customer Domains
 - Semiconductor industry, microsystems technology, system suppliers
 - Mechanical engineering, robotics, mobility
 - Medicine and MedTech applications
 - Energy, hydrogen technologies inclusive
- Regulatory Competencies

Why MEMS and Microsystems in Medical Devices ?

What is MEMS?

- MEMS stands for Micro Electro Mechanical Systems
- A technique of combining Mechanical and Electrical components together on an chip to produce a system of miniature dimensions
- Why MEMS for sensors?
 - Smaller in size, so cheaper due to mass production
 - More sensitive to input variations
 - Have lower power consumption
 - Less invasive than larger devices

Challenges for MEMS in medical sensors?

- Life of the device
- Biocompatibility → biggest hurdle
- Resist drifting along with the body fluids
- Retrieving data out of the devices

MEMS technologies

MEMS processes

- Lithography
- Wet etching
- Dry etching
- Layer deposition
- Wafer thinning
- Surface treatment
- Wafer bonding

MEMS Technology flows

- Bulk technologies (with membranes and optical layers/gratings)
- HARM technologies for capacitive MEMS
- Gap reduction technologies
- AIN technology for piezoelectric MEMS
- Thin film encapsulation

MEMS Devices

- Acceleration sensors
- Angular rate sensors
- Fabry-Perot filters
- HF switches

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- MEMS speaker
- Ultrasonic transducers

Status of MEMS for medical applications

Sens-o-Spheres

Location-independent measurement capture in biotechnology

Charging concept

Demonstrator Setup

General

- Measurement of temperature, pH value, etc.
- Spheres are directly involved in the process
- Fully encapsulated electronics
- Highly miniaturized spheres
- Wireless charging
- Next steps: Localization of the spheres

Results

 Functional proof of the demonstrator in laboratory use

Intended use

- Charging concept built and tested
- First functional prototypes

- Permanent monitoring of bioprocesses
- Measurement throughout the entire volume
- Minimization of process influence using sensor technology

Micromechanical Ultrasonic Transducer

CMUT for NDT: sensor area: Ø 5 mm

Angular array PMUT (10x10 mm²)

General

- Micromechanical ultrasonic transducers with capacitive or piezoelectric operating principle
- Use as sensor and receiver
- Production of arrays for two-dimensional measurement of material properties and height profiles, object detection or level measurement

Sound path in mm

Example of a time-of-flight detection of an object

Benefits

- Piezoelectric elements in wafer level technology
- Evaluation electronics for liquid media
- System packaging, also for harsh environments

- Ultrasonic imaging of solid, liquid or gaseous media
- Mapping of height profiles, object recognition
- Medical image processing
- Non-destructive testing
- Flow measurement
- Level measurement

Wake-Up MEMS

Working principle Wake-Up MEMS

General

- Inertial sensor
- Intrinsic charge generation due to inertial signal from environment
- Battery free MEMS function with wake-up function
- Wake-Up MEMS wakes electronics from sleeping mode
- Development: Wake-Up signal is stored on nanoionic devices (complete battery free system)

Wake-Up MEMS on top of a coin cell.

Cooperation

University Bochum and more

- Near-Zero-Power inertial sensor
- Battery free Zero-Power inertia sensors (with nanoionic storage device)

Sensors for health applications

Stretchable and flexible substrates/systems are getting more and more important for wearables even direct on skin.
 Flexible electronics and sensors need smart power sources and energy storage as well as power management
 Encapsulation and packaging technologies need optimized biocompatible integration.

Examples:

Implantable Devices

Demonstrator Hemodynamics Highly miniaturized implant with pressure, temperature, and acceleration sensor as well as ASIC, inductive Link for wireless data and power transfer, LTCC

Active wound healing patch Flexible Substrate, Interdigitated Electrodes Energy supply, Skin Contact / Interface

Demonstrator PodiTrodi Micro fluidic plattform with integrated biosensors for DNA and protein analysis

Biocompatible Endo-Equipment based on MOEMS

Implants and medical equipment

High precision MEMS, highly miniaturized and functionalized (incl. electronics)

Integration technologies for MEMS and electronics at temperatures below 200°C

Biocompatible multi layer encapsulation

2D & 2 ranges inertial sensor Si/Glass, Ca. 1 x 1 mm² active sensor area

Ultra sonic transducer Si, Ca. 6 x 6 mm²...3 x 3 mm²

Project reference "Endostim"

Thin film encapsulation by using Parylene C, 600 nm thin

Lab on a Chip Systems

Microfluidic cartridges with integrated electro-chemical and optical sensors

Microfluidic cartridges for pathogen detection in chipcard technology

SARS-COV2-Test.

Mobile measuring device

General

- Electrochemical low-cost integrated actuation technology for pumps and valves
- Transfer of bio-chemical assays into microfluidic systems (incl. instrument)
- miniaturized detection of pathogens, vital parameters or (electro-)chemical properties

Benefits

- High degree of automation
 → no skilled personnel necessary
- No fluidic interconnections necessary
 - \rightarrow low risk of contamination
 - \rightarrow robust

- Human and veterinary point of care diagnostics
- Environmental monitoring
- Food safety

Sensor and Actuator Systems

Inertial sensors

Sensors for

- Acceleration
- Vibration
- Inclination
- Yaw rate

- Optical filter
- Optical grating
- Controllable detectors and sources
- Spectral sensors
- QD LED

Electromagnetic sensors

Sensors for

- Magnetic field
- Distance
- Position
- Rotation
- Characterization of electro-magnetic fields

Pressure and Force

- Ultrasonic devices
- MEMS loudspeaker
- Pressure sensitive resonators
- Pressure sensors
- Tactile sensors

Material and structure

Sensors for

- Mechanical stress
- Strain
- Overload
- Humidity
- Analysis of thermomechanical load

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