

## An new way to build low cost, 3D, integrated microsystems in laminates

Santa Clara IEEE CPMT Society  
November 11, 2015



## A young man and woman are sitting together, looking at a tablet computer. The woman is holding the tablet, and the man is pointing at the screen. They both appear to be smiling and engaged with the content. The background is a bright, out-of-focus indoor setting with large windows.

**Tomorrow:**  
The Internet of Things  
Most data generated by/for **things**



## The Internet of Things—a connected world

### What happens when everything is smart and connected?

- By 2020, the Internet of Everything expected to connect **50 Billion devices**.
- Triple digit growth: Energy, Transportation, Digital Cities, Healthcare, Financial Services, Retail (Verizon)
- “**...a \$19 trillion opportunity**” (John Chambers, Cisco CEO)
- Big winners: semiconductor, network, remote sensor and big data.



**50 Billion devices =  
500,000,000,000 devices**

**IN FIVE YEARS**

## IoT is biggest market in recent tech history

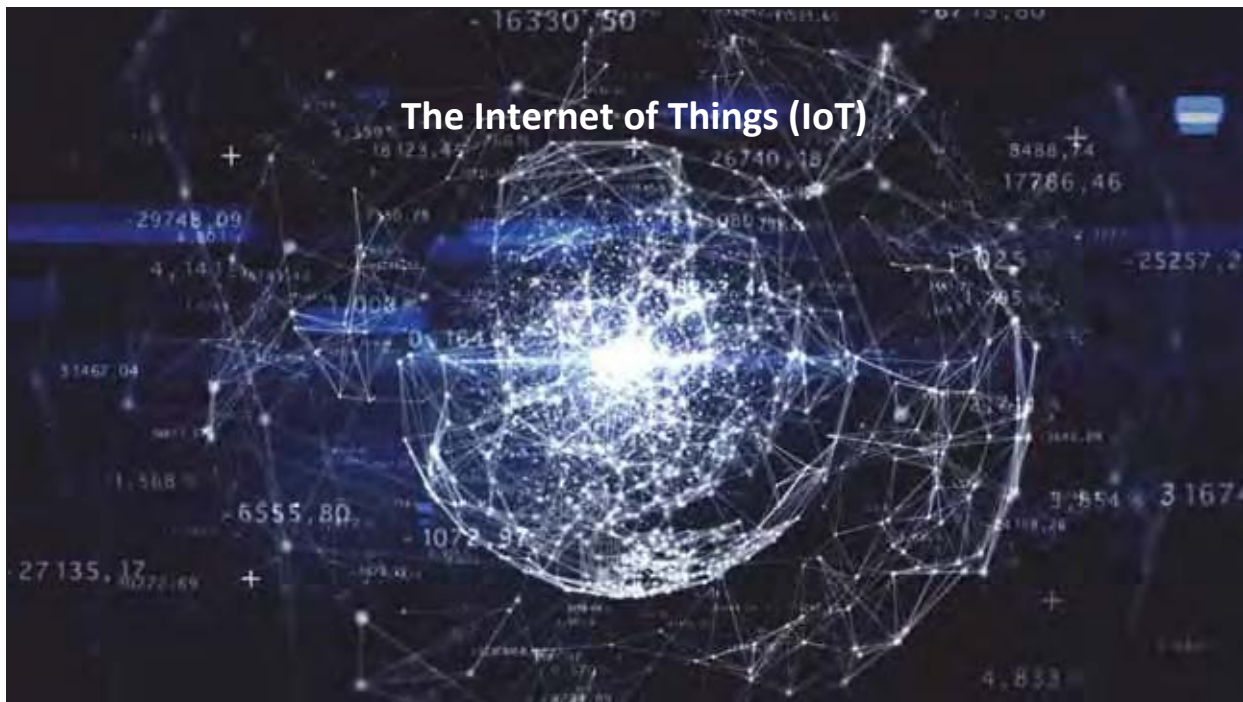
**\$7 to \$17 Trillion market opportunity  
by 2020**

**\$17 TRILLION =  $17 \times 10^{12}$**   
**\$17,000,000,000,000**

**“California GOLD RUSH”**







## The Internet of Things (IoT)

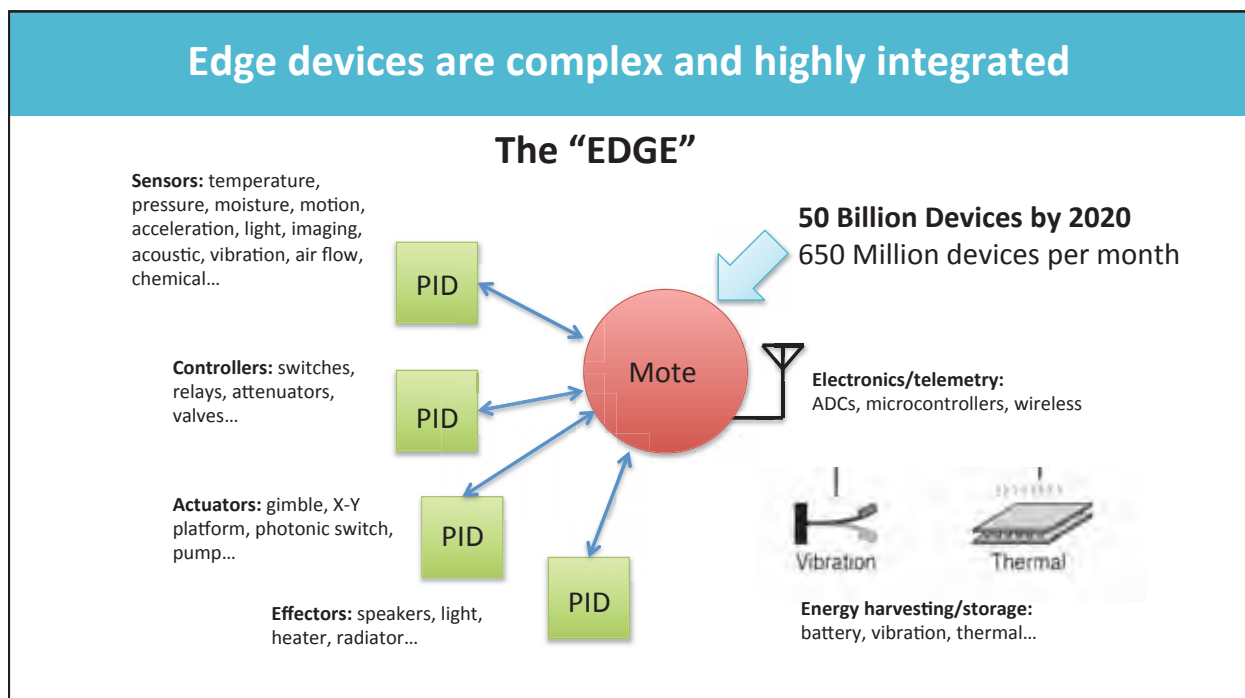
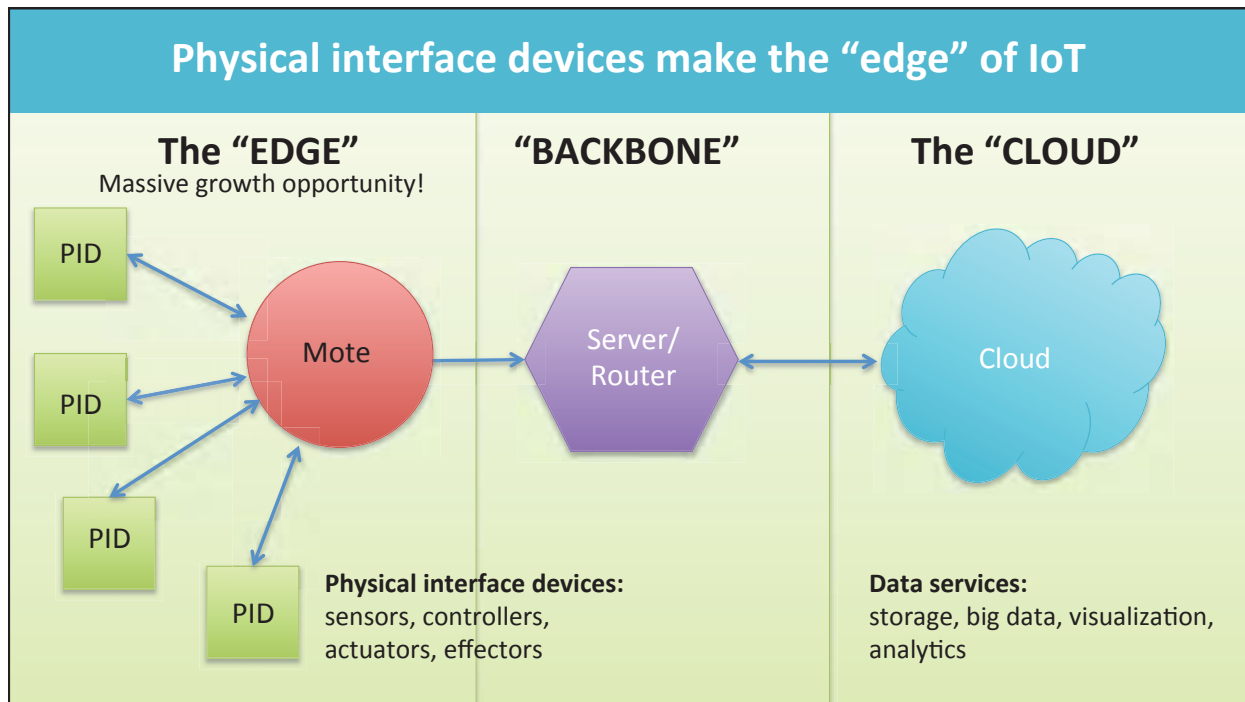
The Internet of Things (IoT) is expected to be a **\$17 Trillion dollar** opportunity by 2020.

More than **50 Billion devices** will be connected to the internet by 2020. Expectations are up to **1 Trillion sensors** by 2020.

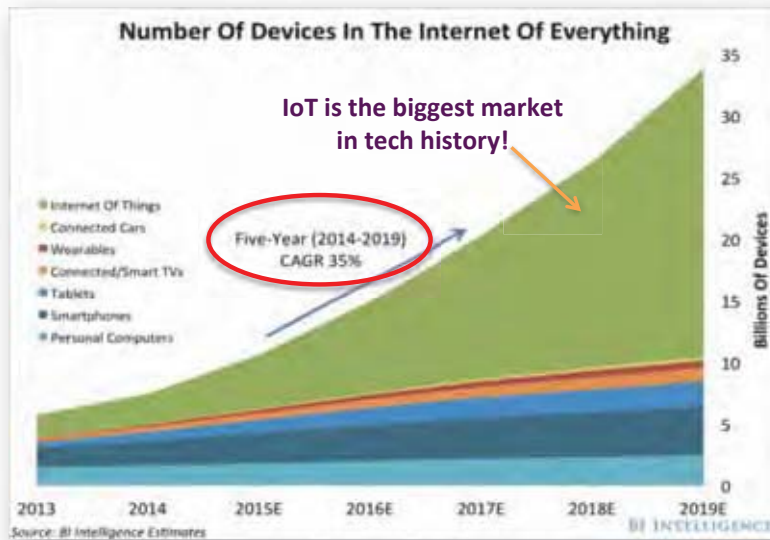
Requires a build rate of **650+ Million (6,500,000) DEVICES PER MONTH** for the next five years.

Large opportunities for **hardware, software, services, and applications** in the **largest market in recent tech history**.





## Billions of Things, Trillions of Dollars



## \$106 Billion market for edge devices

Market Engineering Measurements		
Total Sensor Market: Global, 2011		
Market Overview		
MEASUREMENT NAME	MEASUREMENT	TREND
Market Stage	Growth	—
Market Revenue (2011)	\$60.42 B	▲
Average Price Per Unit	\$1.50	▲
Market Size for Last Year of Study Period (2017)	\$105.99 B	▲
Base Year Market Growth Rate	8.7%	▲
Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR, 2011–2017)	9.8%	▲
Customer Price Sensitivity (scale of 1 to 10, Low to High)	5	▲
Degree of Technical Change (scale of 1 to 10, Low to High)	7	▲
Market Concentration (% of base year market controlled by top competitors)	23.41%	▲

TREND: Increasing (▲) Stable (■) Decreasing (▼)

Frost & Sullivan

Frost and Sullivan, "Insight into Sensors: Current Markets and Forecasts" July 2013

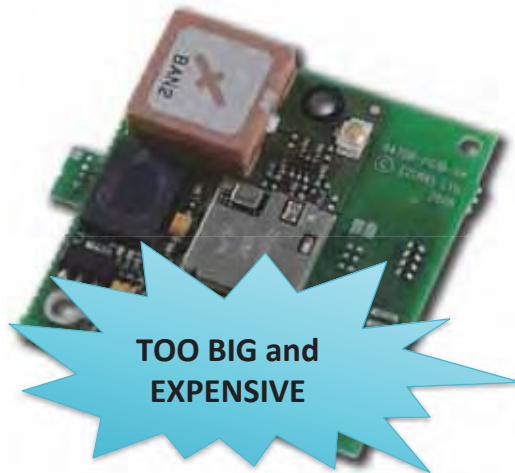
## Some example edge products...



**“Edge” products represent a big opportunity for IoT**  
**But, there is a problem...**

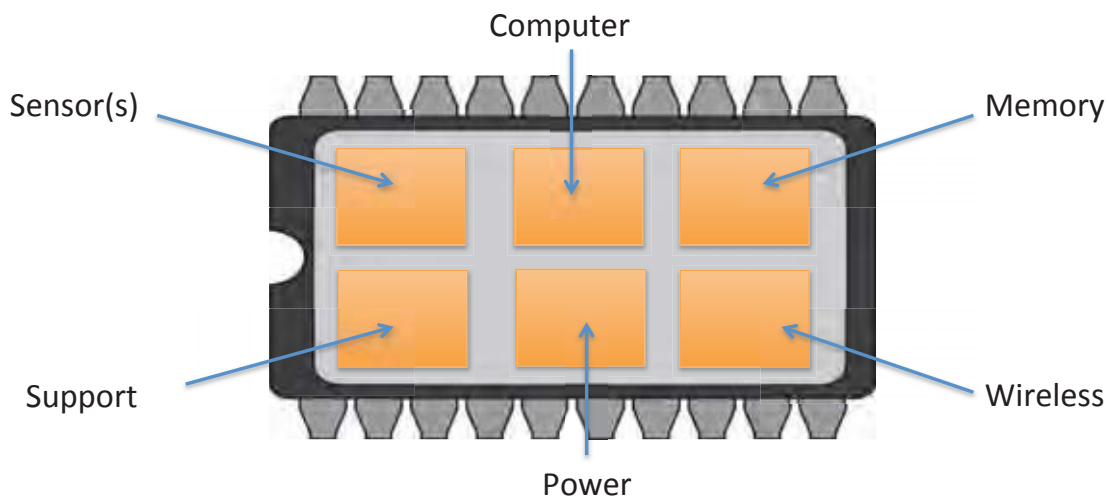


## Small, low cost, integrated devices are hard to make



1. **Sensor(s)**  
*Interface to world*
2. **Computer**  
*Smart*
3. **Memory**  
*Allows telemetry*
4. **Wireless / telemetry**  
*Communications*
5. **Power**  
*Power management*
6. **Support electronics**  
*Amplification, filtering*

## Anatomy of an ideal IoT device (“chip”)



The Internet of Things (IoT) will require 50 billion devices connected by 2020.

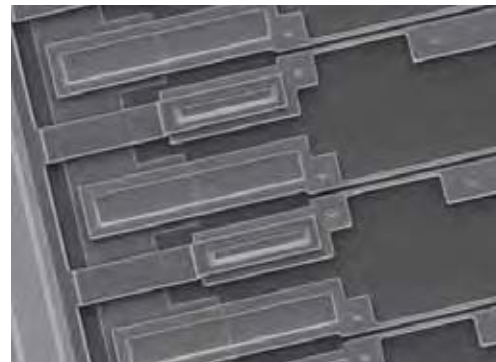
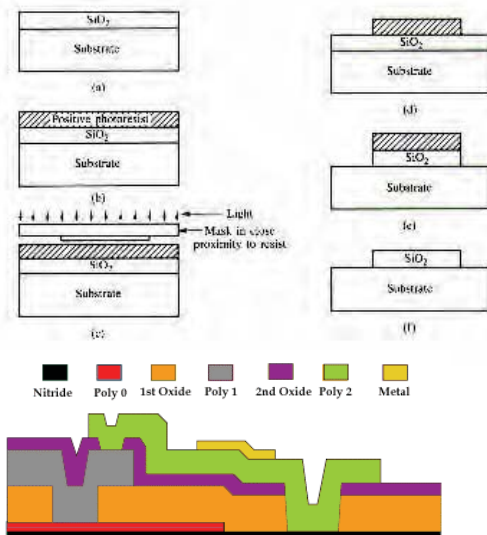


## The future of IoT devices: System in Package



SiP: Everything in one small package.  
Including the microdevice?

## A brief look at MEMS manufacturing (silicon)



*Process is primarily monolithic;  
integration is difficult.*

## Brief look at MEMS manufacturing

### Materials

Single crystal silicon  
Poly Si, Nitride, Oxide  
Polyimide, SU-8  
Metals

### Comment:

Silicon-based micromachining is optimized for electronic devices. Other devices (mechanical, optical, fluidic, biological, etc.) pose significant challenges to manufacturing.

### Processes

Lithography  
Vapor deposition  
Etch



## MEMS manufacturing summary

### Advantages

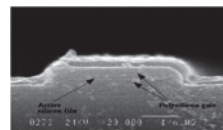
High precision lithography  
Large infrastructure  
Known processes  
Well characterized material  
Ability to add electronics

### Comment:

Silicon-based micromachining is historically tied to the semiconductor industry. Electronic circuits essentially do NOT need to have true 3-D shapes.

### Disadvantages

Planar processes  
Monolithic processes  
Limited materials  
Limited processes  
Difficult integration  
Difficult packaging



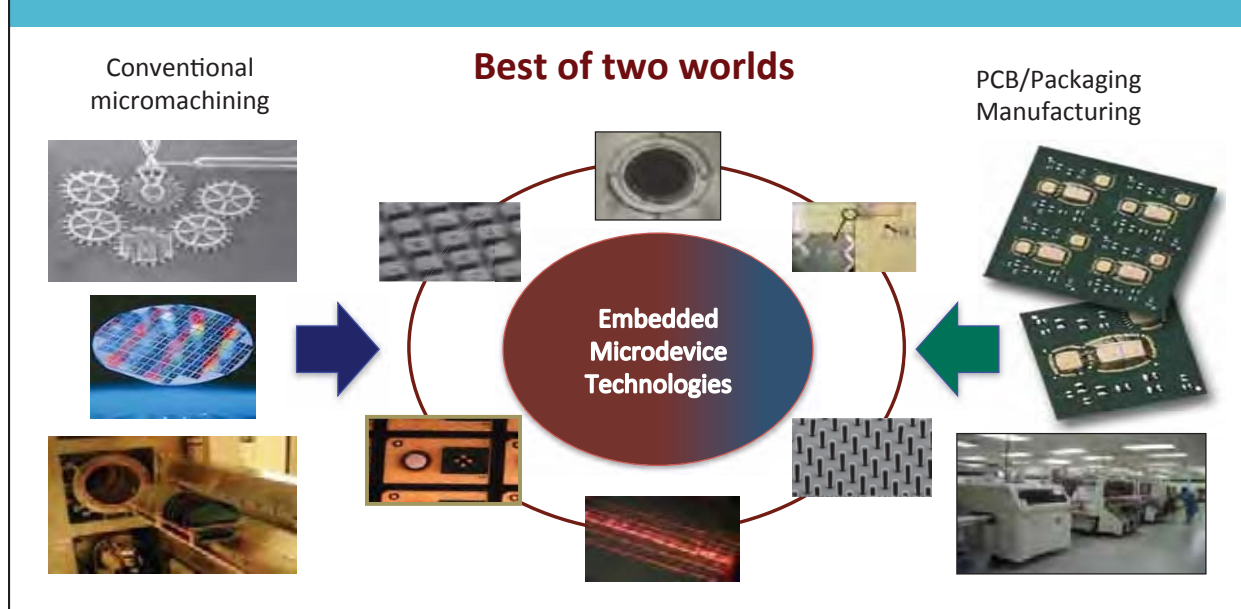
## MEMS in SIP?

- ✧ Non-standard manufacturing  
*Many sensors not standard solid state, often with specialty materials*
- ✧ Special packaging requirements  
*May require environmental access, hermetic seals, low temperature, expensive!...*
- ✧ Fragile components  
*Often have free-standing, delicate components*
- ✧ Batch (wafer-level) testing difficult  
*Many sensors are not active until after singulation*



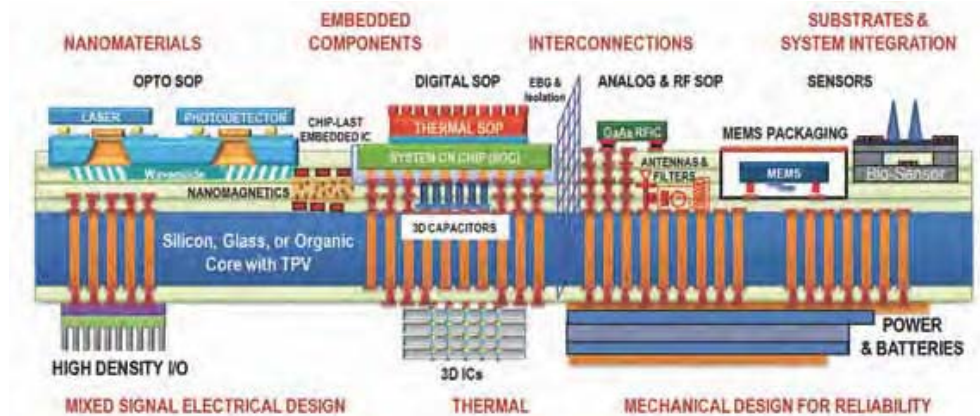
Hard to integrate MEMS in SIP module. Difficult to achieve low manufacturing cost.

## Embedded devices in laminates / 3D heterogeneous integration



## Post-semiconductor manufacturing → System In Package

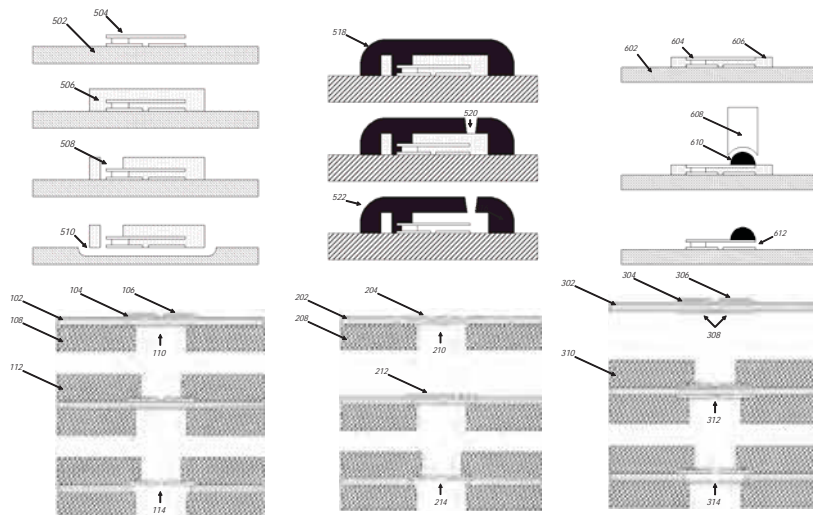
System in Package requires: **3D Heterogeneous Integration**



Precision manufacturing, multiple materials, multiple technologies

## Integrated embedded microdevices in laminates

Conventional MEMS strategies can be adapted to laminate/packaging manufacturing.

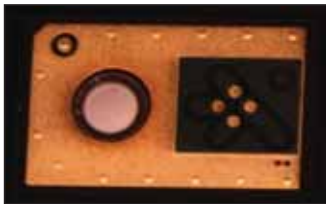


Bachman and Li, "Methods of manufacturing microdevices in laminates, lead frames, packages, and printed circuit boards," US 8,877,074 A1 (2014).



## Examples of integrated embedded microdevices

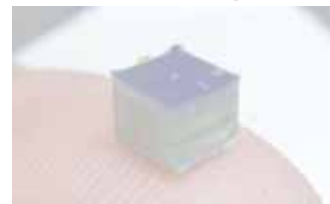
### Microphones



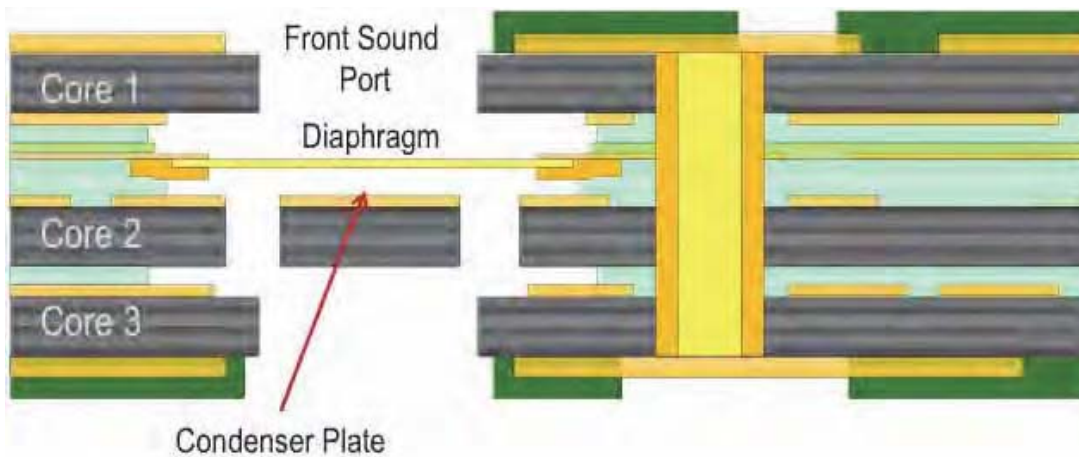
### Microfluidic systems



### Microrelays



## Integrated embedded microdevices: microphones



3 Core Layers  
10 Mask Layers  
Au Diaphragm Material

Non-Flow PrePreg gap material  
2um Diaphragm Thickness  
40um Condenser Plate Gap

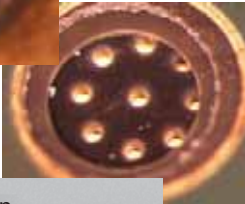
*David Deroo, Meso Integrated and Conexant Systems, 2006*

## Integrated embedded microdevices: microphones

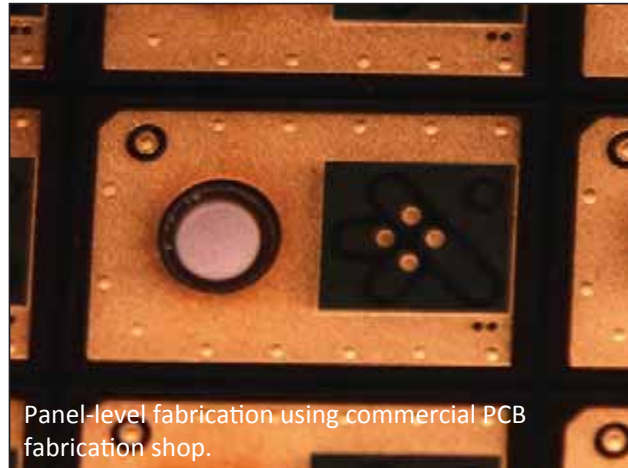
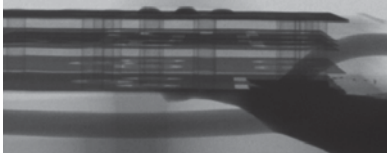


Frontside Port showing 1  $\mu\text{m}$  Au diaphragm structure

Backside port acoustic holes



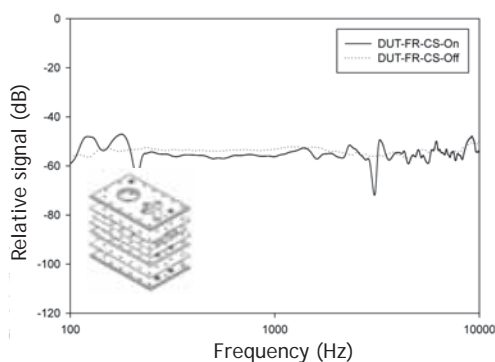
X-Ray Cross-Section



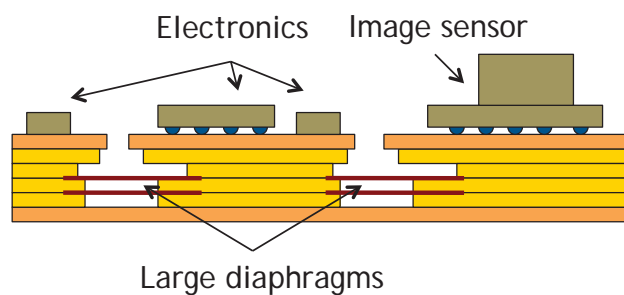
Panel-level fabrication using commercial PCB fabrication shop.

David Deroo, Meso Integrated, Mark Bachman, and Conexant Systems, 2006

## Integrated embedded microdevices: microphone arrays



Device performance comparable to ECM microphones.



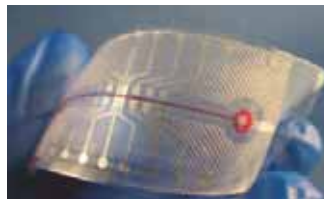
- Multiple sensors (e.g., array) small footprint
- Space saving, leave room for electronics
- Larger sensing area possible
- Thinner profile
- More integration

## Examples of integrated embedded microdevices

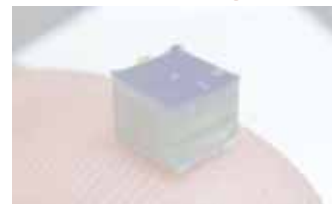
Microphones



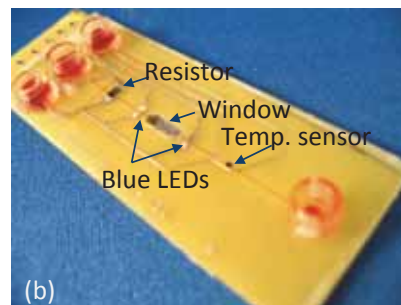
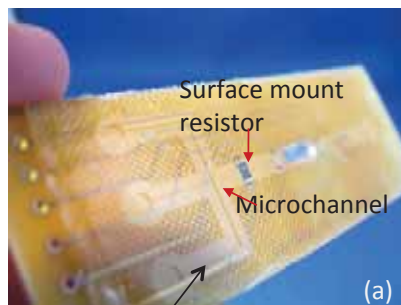
Microfluidic systems



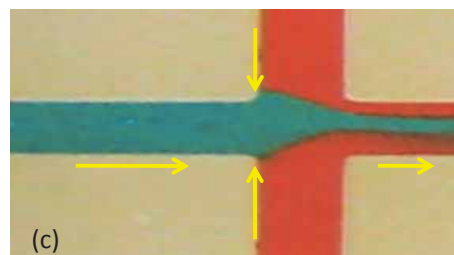
Microrelays



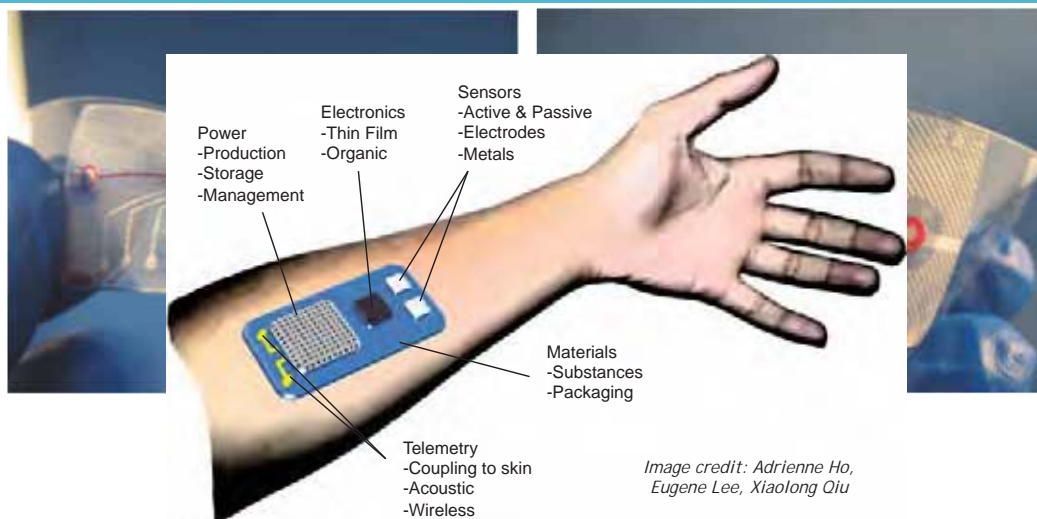
## Microfluidic systems on PCBs



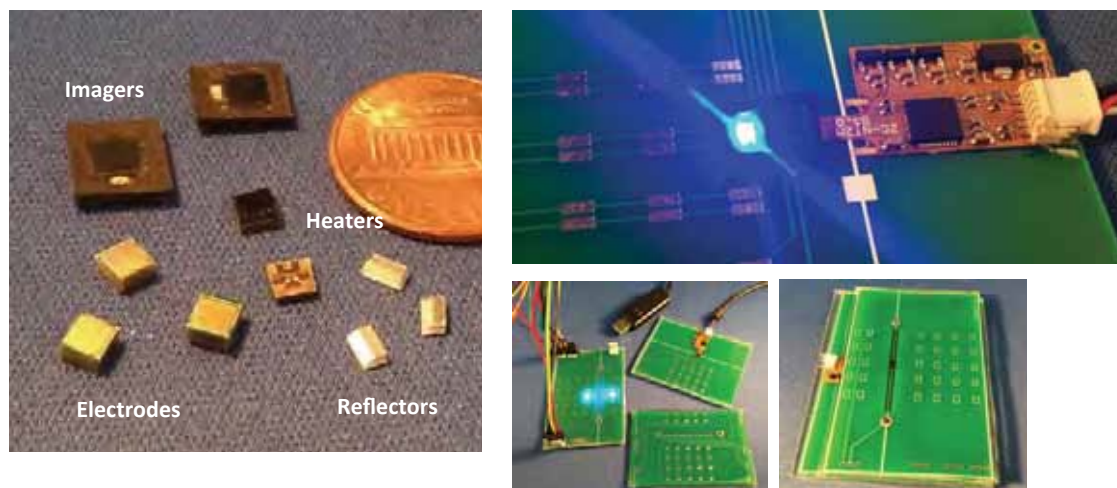
Lab chip  
designed for  
rapid  
diagnostics of  
malaria.



## Microfluidic systems on flexible PCBs



## $\mu$ FLEMs: Surface mountable fluid optical electrical components





## Examples of integrated embedded microdevices

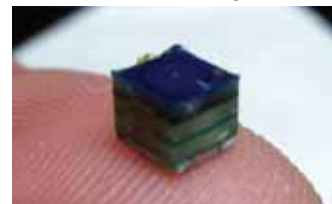
**Microphones**



**Microfluidic systems**

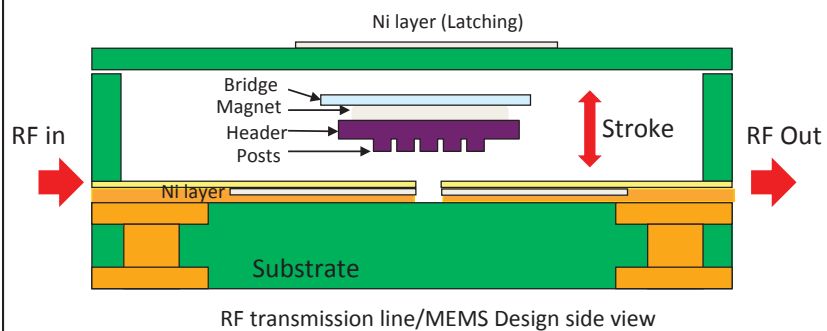


**Microrelays**



## Embedded magnetic micro-relay (dual latch)

1. Separated RF transmission line from MEMS components
2. Optimized for high power RF transmission
3. Bi-directional latched switching design
4. Contact surface control by specialized headers



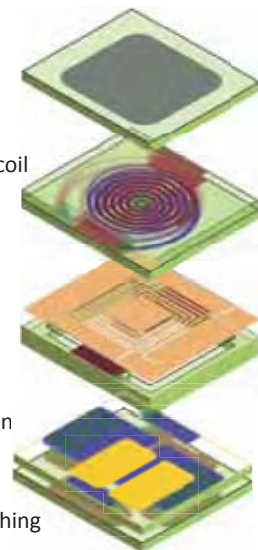
Top latching

12 layer EM coil

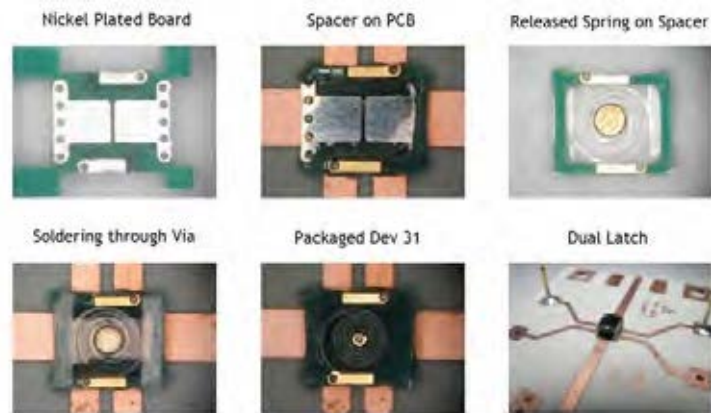
Magnet  
Spring  
Spacer

Transmission  
Line

Bottom latching

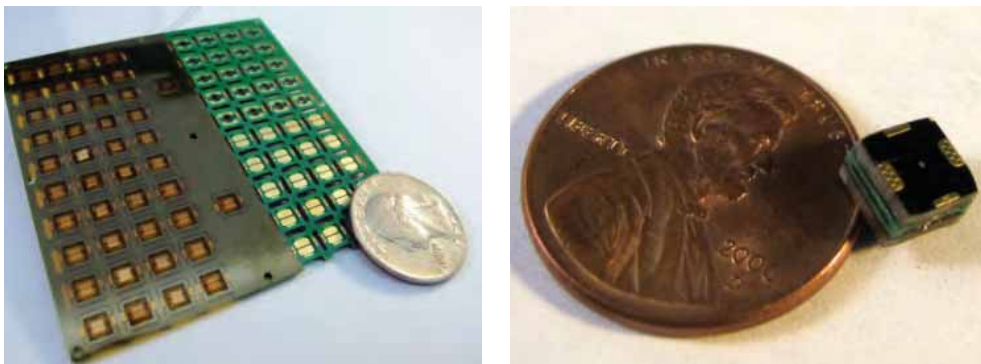


## Embedded micro-relay construction



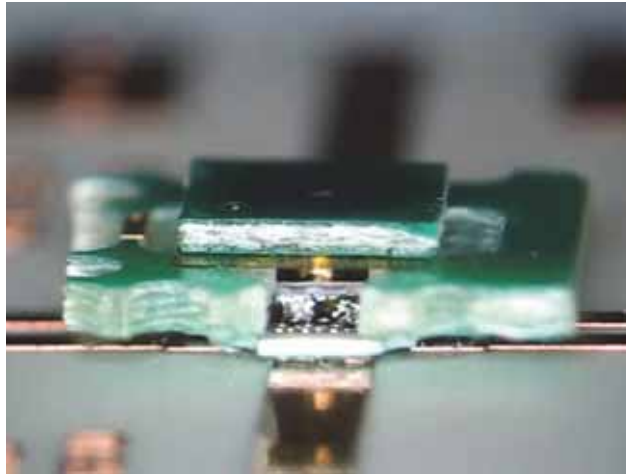
Images showing original laminate magnetically actuated MEMS RF switch at different stages of its manufacture. The unit utilizes a microcoil and miniature magnet to move a plate into contact against a transmission line.

## Panel-level construction and packaged dies



Images showing panels used for manufacturing RF microrelays and a completed, packaged RF microrelay.

## Embedded micro-relay actuation



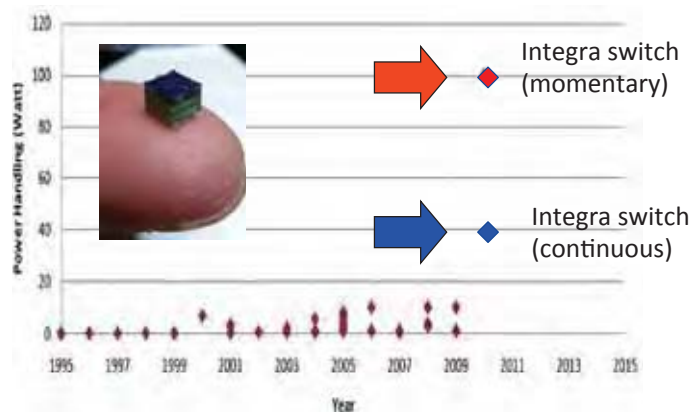
Video showing actuation of partially packaged RF microrelay.

## Power performance of embedded micro-relay

Integra's MEMS DC switch 3x3 mm can handle over 40 watts of power.

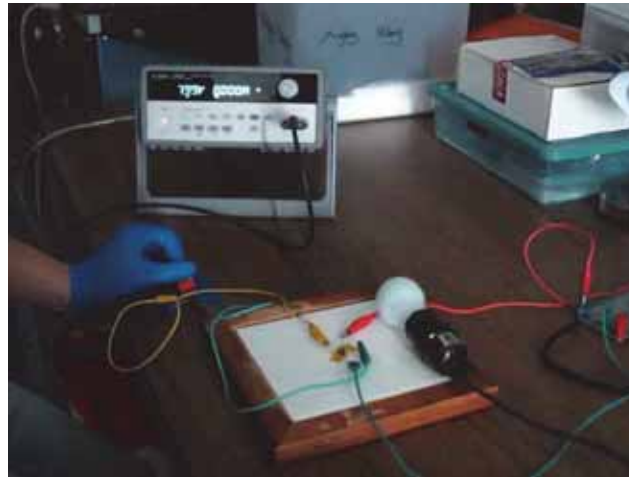
Instantaneous power is 100 W. That is more than 20 times the best conventional silicon device.

Low voltage actuation, high power latching MEMS switch.



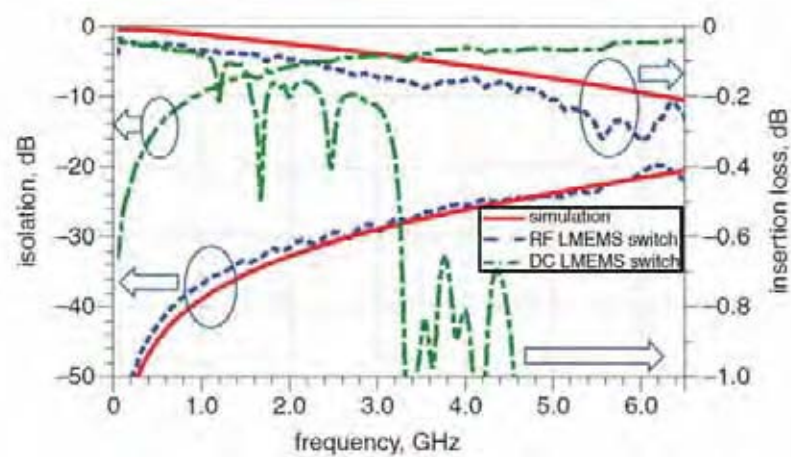
Power handling of microrelay.

## Demonstration of high power microrelay



Video showing switching of 110 VAC at 40 W.

## Performance of RF microrelay



Frequency response of RF microrelay.



## Integrated embedded microdevices value proposition

### New products

New types of products can be envisioned that can't be built using silicon, that feature high level of integration. Devices can be developed for emerging markets of energy, biomedical, and human interface.

### New manufacturing

New manufacturing methods developed for these applications can be used to create unique capabilities. Manufacturing can produce 3D structures, integration of novel materials, and moving elements. Packaging is part of the manufacturing.

### New business model

Packaging company can become device company. Sell finished products (or nearly finished products) to end customers. Higher margins, greater differentiation.

## Integrated embedded microdevices?

New advancements in sensor packaging and 3D heterogeneous integration will be needed to bring the cost of IoT sensor systems down.

New methods of manufacturing sensors and actuators can be explored to produce smaller, less expensive sensor components that are **integrated in package**.

3D heterogeneous integration and packaging technology is a viable manufacturing technology for building sensors and actuators. **Packaging manufacturers could become device manufacturers.**



INTEGR<sup>3</sup>A DEVICES  
SYSTEMS BEYOND SILICON

Calit2

## Thank You

Mark Bachman, Ph.D.

UC Irvine/Calit2  
Integra Devices  
mbachman@uci.edu

UCIRVINE Calit2 INRF

INTEGR<sup>3</sup>A DEVICES  
SYSTEMS BEYOND SILICON