Special Issue

3D Printable Soft Robotics and Soft Actuators

Message from the Guest Editor

Initially inspired by soft biological systems in nature, soft robots are attracting attention due to their flexibility and integration to human interfaces. Soft robotic research has expanded in recent years due to the significant progress in additive manufacturing technologies and soft functional materials. The novel 3D printing methods facilitate fabrications of customized functional materials as well as soft complex structures, such as soft sensors and actuators. This Special Issue invites all original research articles, review papers, and short communications addressing the latest advances in the field of 3D printable soft robotics and soft actuators. This includes but is not limited to 3D printing of soft and functional materials, smart materials, 4D printing, soft composite synthesis, experimental characterization, 3D printing development, computational material modeling, optimization and design, manufacturing, and applications.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (15 November 2022)



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About the Journal

Message from the Editorial Board

We are just entering the Next Wave of Technology (NWT) where actuators will play the same role as the computer chip did for computers/social media approximately four decades ago. Just in the U.S., production of \$1 trillion year of electromechanical systems (vehicles, orthotics, manufacturing cells, freight trains, aircraft, etc.) will be impacted by the NWT, all driven by actuators. Five key trends can be found for the future perspectives: "Performance to Reliability", "Hard to Soft", "Macro to Nano", "Homo to Hetero" and "Single to Multi functional". We invite papers that primarily impact these economic sectors; those illustrating basic scientific principles are also welcome.

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