Special Issue

Soft Actuation: State of the Art and Outlook, Volume II- Research Advances

Message from the Guest Editor

Soft robotics possesses the potential to become a technological game-changer and help humanity overcome future global challenges. Indeed, the efforts to minimize humans' role in dangerous, urgent tasks have significantly increased the demand for robots capable of actively assisting or substituting humans. However, there are still no intelligent adaptive robots capable of consistently collaborating with people beyond the strict execution of pre-programmed tasks in either emergencies or routine procedures. Following the success of Volume I of this Special Issue, which included five review and perspective papers, we decided to broaden the scope and compile a second volume for the publication of all types of manuscripts (reviews, perspectives, and research papers).

This Special Issue of Actuators showcases and discusses new advances in various aspects of soft actuation, both the fundamentals and its applications. I invite you to submit reviews or original research articles for publication in "Soft Actuation: State of the Art and Outlook, Volume II- Research advances".

Guest Editor

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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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