Special Issue

Recent Progress in Soft Robotic Systems: Design, Control and Applications

Message from the Guest Editor

Soft robotics has grown rapidly in recent years, with systems that can bend, stretch, and safely interact in ways rigid robots cannot. Still, anyone in the field knows that accomplishment often comes with stubborn challenges. Achieving reliable sensing and control is one of the toughest challenges; soft bodies do not move in neat, predictable ways, so standard estimation and feedback methods tend to fall short. This Special Issue looks at how new sensing approaches and control strategies are shaping the next stage of soft robotics. We invite studies on sensor technologies, whether that means self-sensing materials, electronic skins, stretchable arrays, or hybrid systems, as well as studies that show how these sensors are actually integrated into robots. Equally important are papers that connect sensing to real control and application scenarios, from wearable healthcare devices to adaptive soft grippers. The goal is not just to showcase recent progress but also to point out limits, trade-offs, and open questions that will define where the field goes next.

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Sensors is a leading journal devoted to fast publication of the latest achievements of technological developments and scientific research in the huge area of physical, chemical and biochemical sensors, including remote sensing and sensor networks. Both experimental and theoretical papers are published, including all aspects of sensor design, technology, proof of concept and application. Sensors organizes Special Issues devoted to specific sensing areas and applications each year.

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