

WEARPLEX Beta Workshop: E-textile integration



Speaker: Dr Abiodun Komolafe

Helga Nunes-Matos, Monika Glanc-Gostkiewicz, Kai Yang, Steve Beeby, Russel Torah

University of Southampton, UK

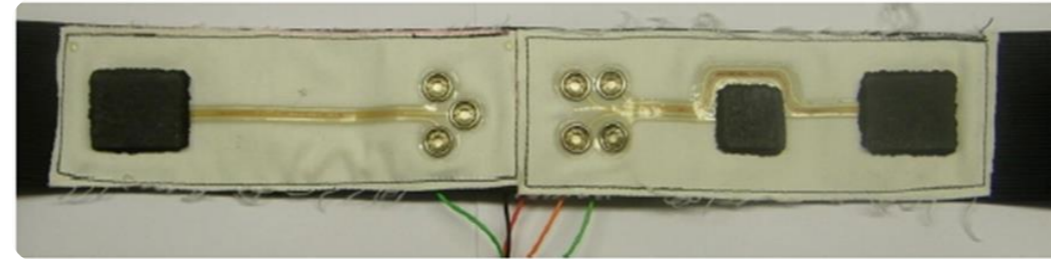
24th March 2021



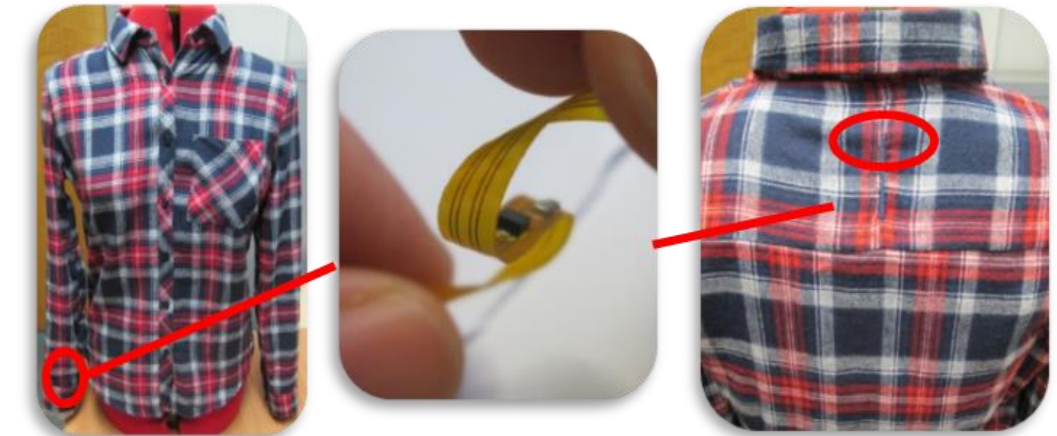
Background: Related e-textile examples (UoS)



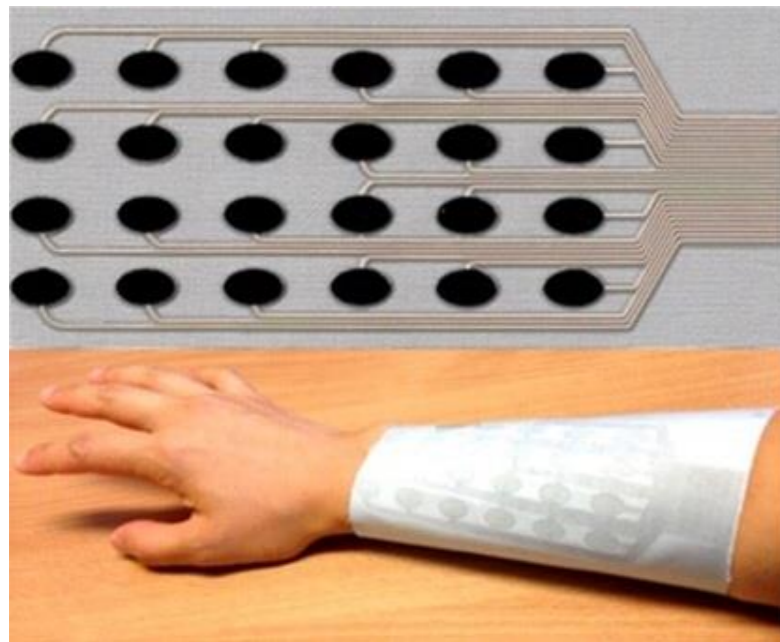
Printed Electroluminescent Watch Display on Fabric (UoS)
(M. de Vos et al (2016) *J. of Display Tech.* 12: 757-1763.)



Printed Active electrodes on fabric (UoS)
(Paul et al 2015 *Sens. & Act. A.* 221, p60-66410)



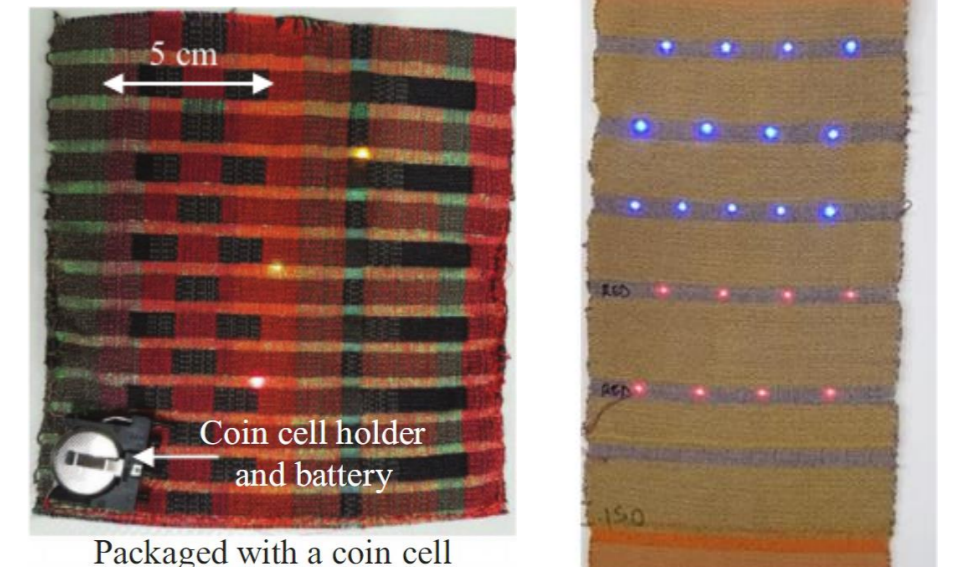
Motion sensing garments (UoS)
(Li et al - *Sensors* 2020, 20(18), 503310)



Printed FES electrode array on fabric (UoS)
(Yang et al - *Sensors* (2018)- 18(8), 2410)



Printed frank configuration vest (UoS)
(Paul et al 2017 *Smart Mater. Struct.* 26 025029)

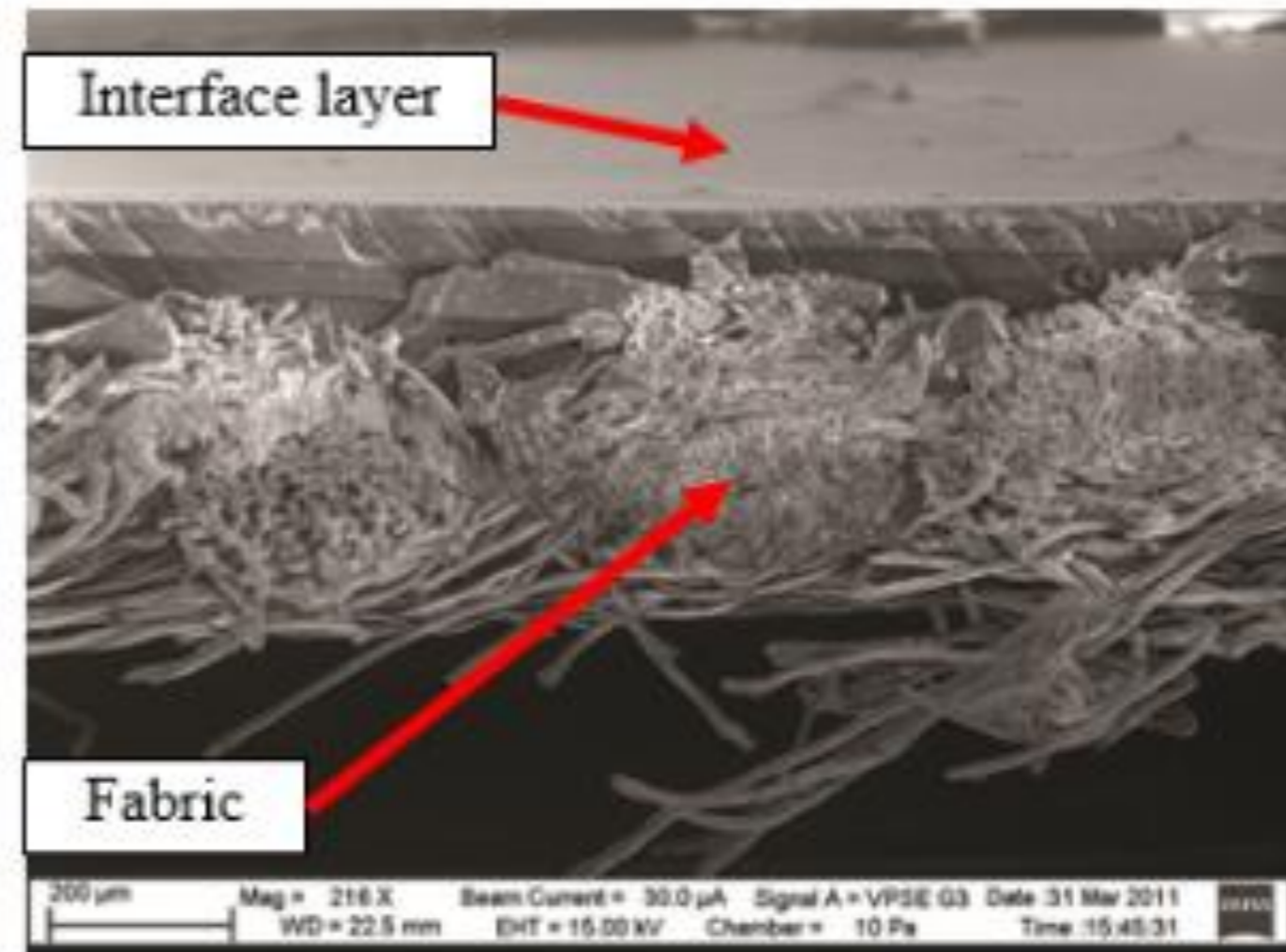
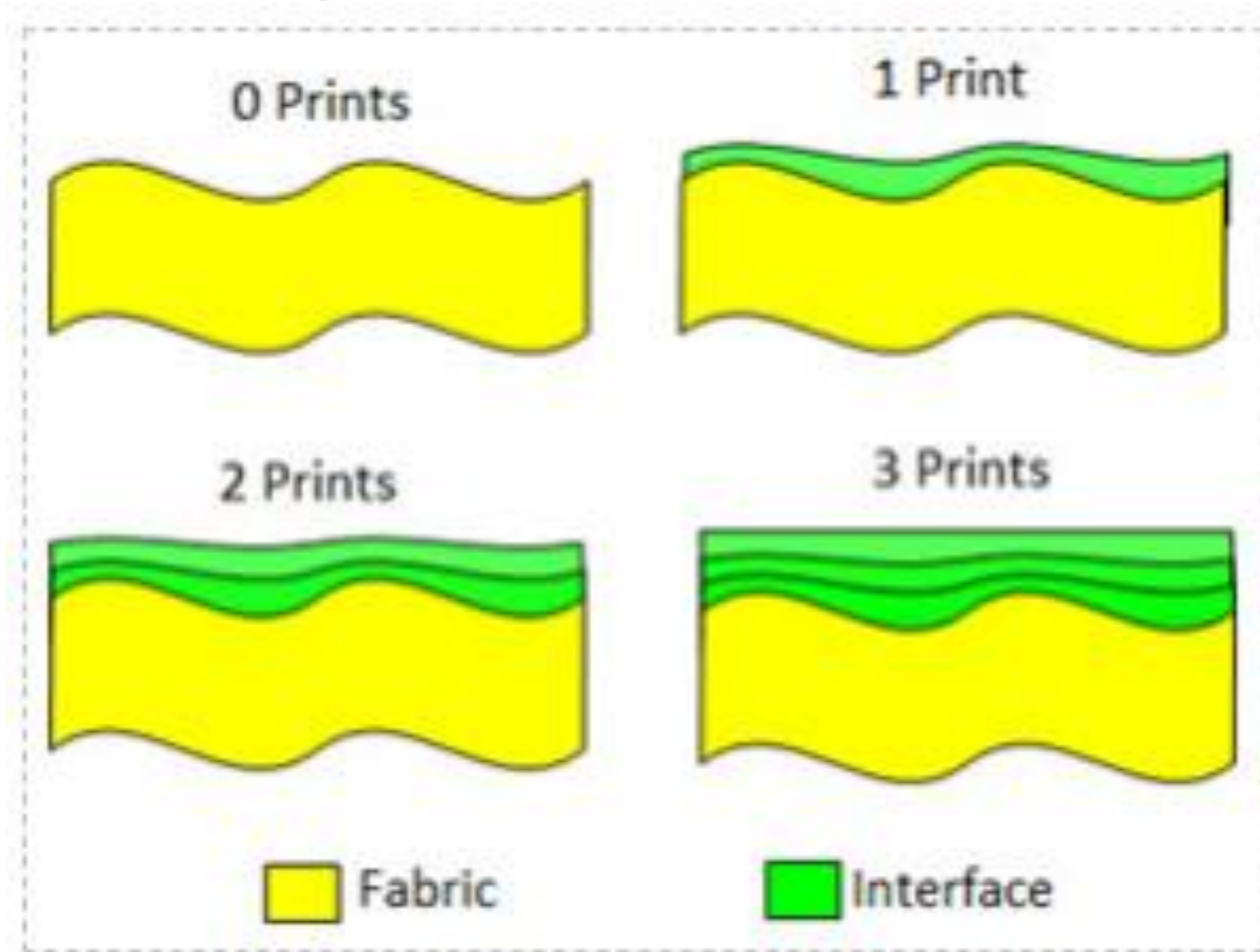


Woven LED filaments (UoS)
(Komolafe et al 2019 *Adv. Mat.Tech.* 4(7), p.1900176.)



Latest Results

- » Screen printing electronics directly on to textile (UoS) – Fabric roughness (Ra) needs to be less than $10\ \mu\text{m}$ to be suitable for OECT's.

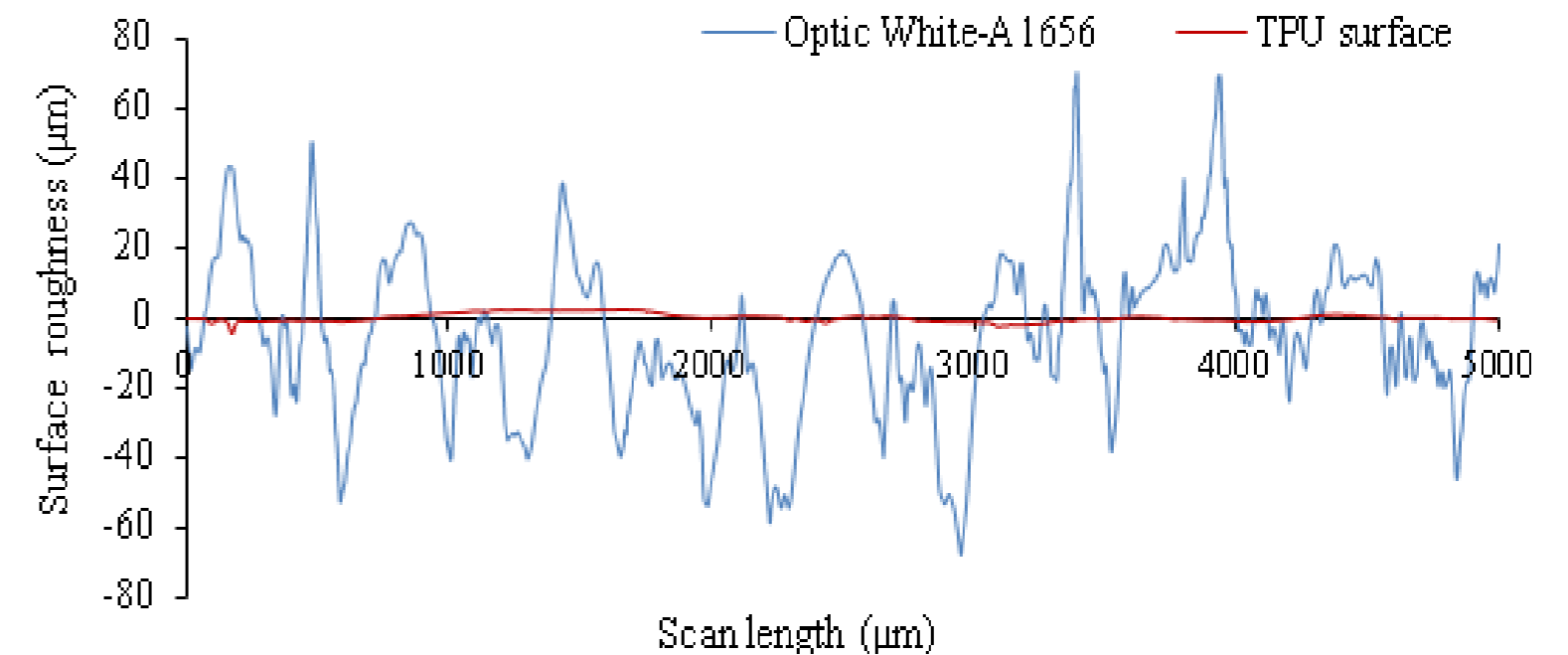
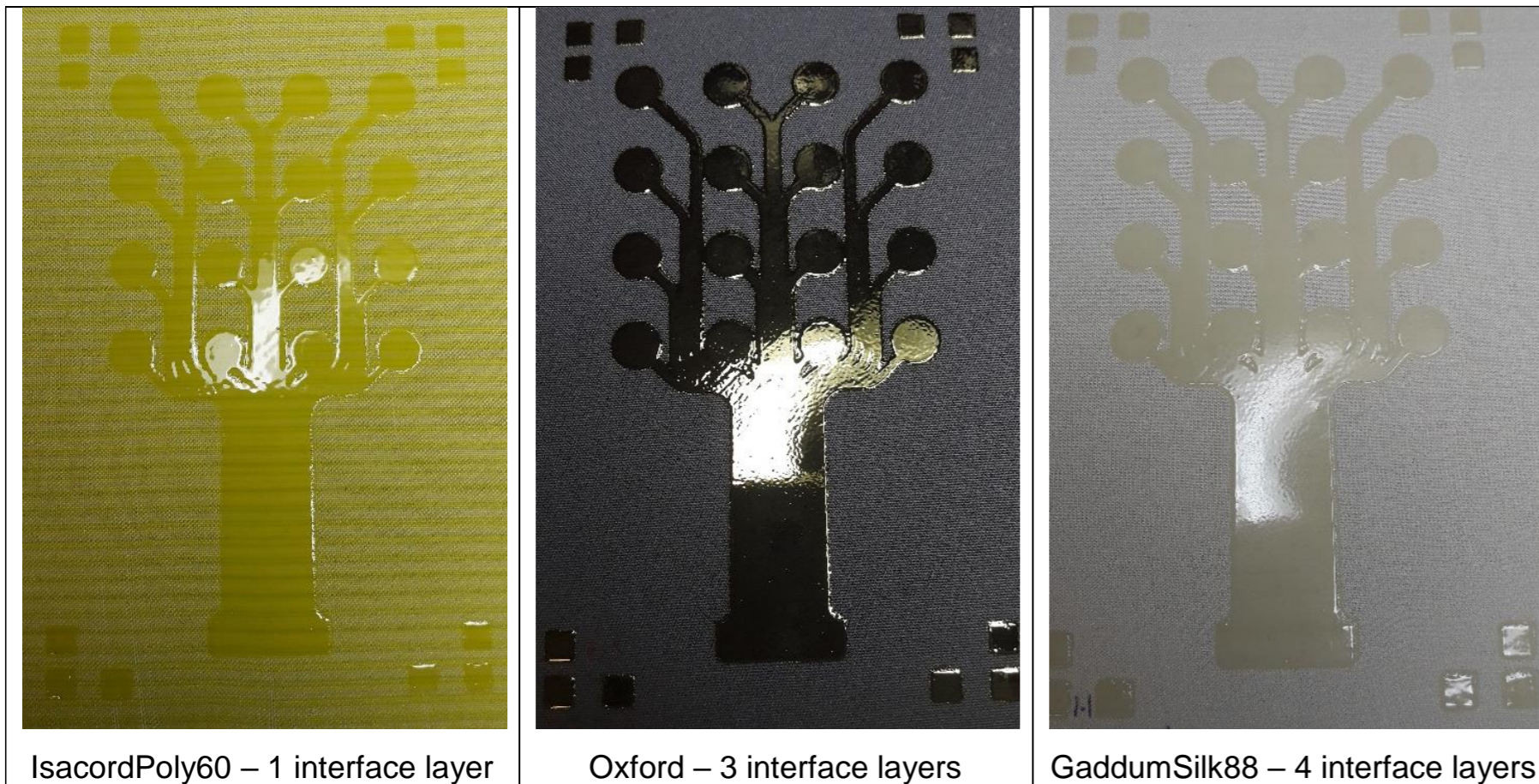


Multiple screen printed primer layer ($\sim 190\ \mu\text{m}$) on fabric (UoS)



Latest Results

- » Key fabrics were printed with complex pattern (recording electrode) interface pattern to determine optimum surface roughness and thickness of PU layer.



Surface roughness (Ra) measured using Tencor P-11 surface profilometer.

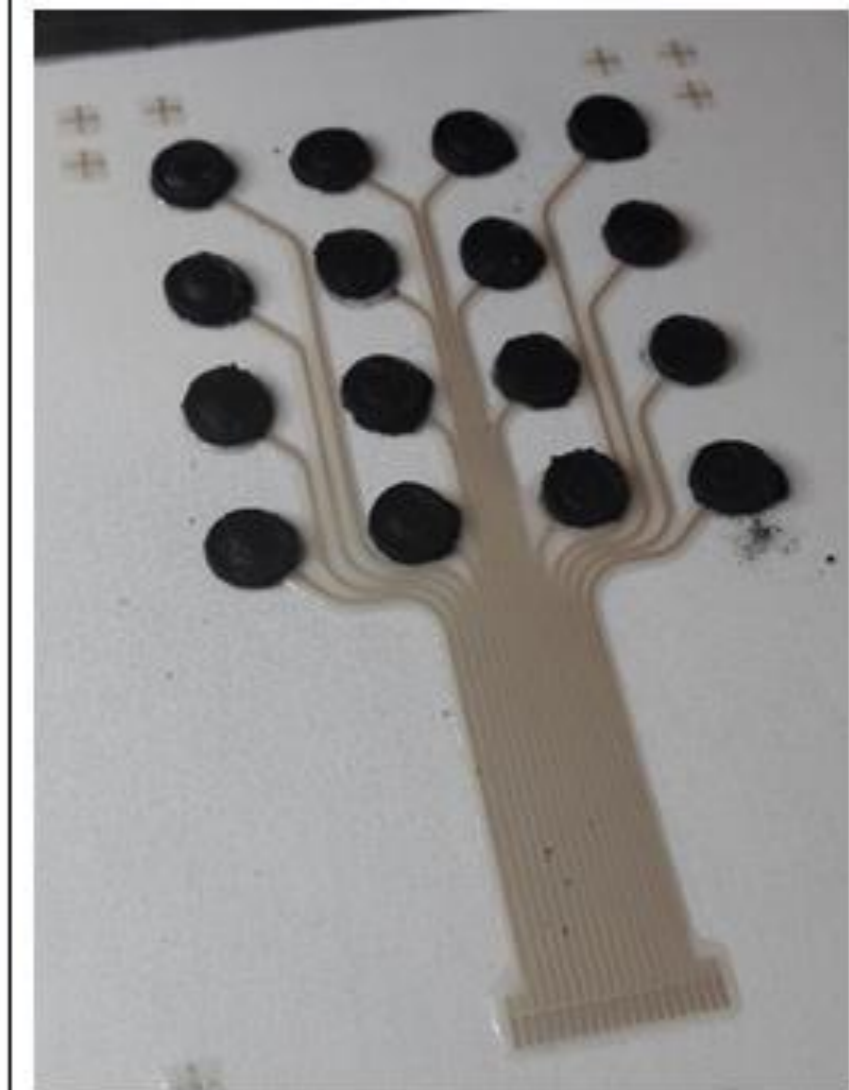
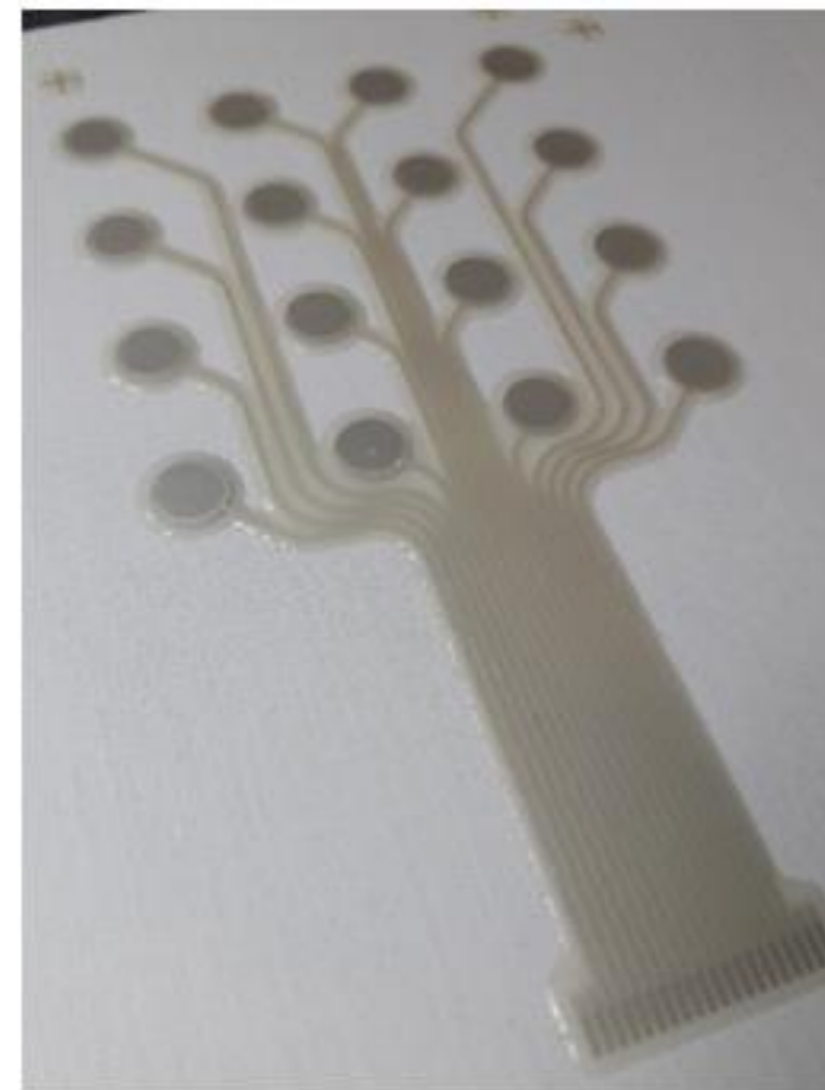
Komolafe et al. (2020) Influence of textile structure on the wearability of printed e-textiles. IEEE FLEPS 2020, <https://eprints.soton.ac.uk/442028/>



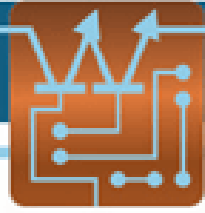
Latest Results

» WEARPLEX stimulation and recording electrodes have been printed on to fabric and tested by AAU and TECSR.

Pastes	Functionality	Curing Conditions
Fabink UV-IF-1004	Standard interface to create smooth surface on various fabrics	UV light, 30 s
Fabink UV-IF-1039	Waterproof interface and encapsulation suitable for various fabrics	UV light, 60 s
Fabink TC-C4007	Silver ink for printing flexible conductor layer on top of the interface layer	120–130 °C, 10–25 min
Fabink TC-E0002	Silicone rubber carbon paste for printing dry electrode on top of the conductive layer	80 °C, 30 min

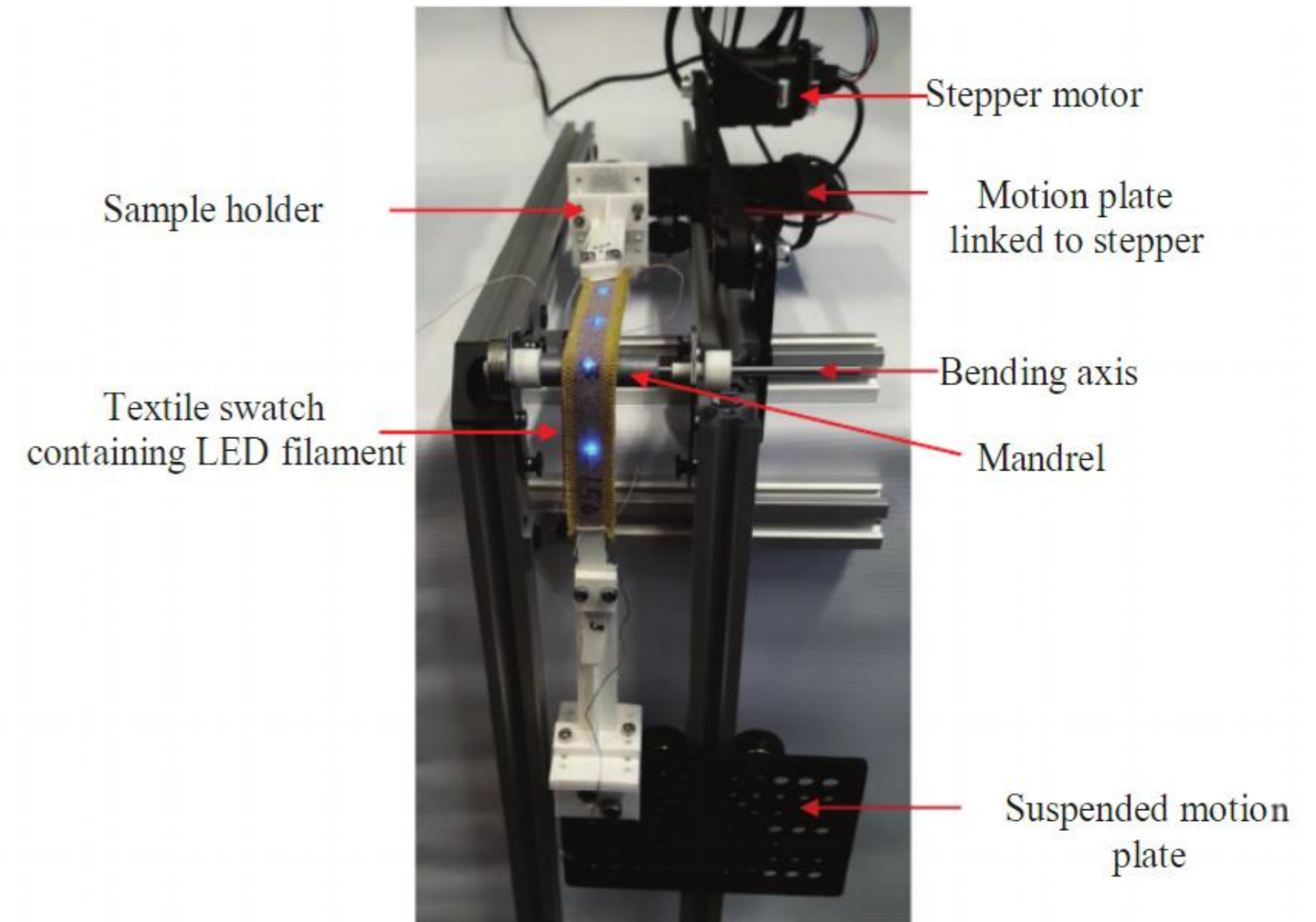


Example of screen printed recording electrode on fabric (UoS)



Future developments for WEARPLEX

- » Printing the OECT directly onto textile – interface compatibility already confirmed.
- » Integrating parts of the WEARPLEX electronics into the textile.
- » Creating complete printed garments for EMG and stimulation applications.
- » Reliability testing; including cyclic bending and washing trials.



Cyclic reliability of woven filaments (UoS)
(Komolafe et al 2019 *Adv. Mat.Tech.* 4(7), p.1900176.