

Special Issue

3D Printed Actuators

Message from the Guest Editors

It is quite remarkable to witness the achievements made in just the past decade in improving the efficiency, speed, shape factor, range of motion, and utility of 3D-printed actuators for applications in engineering, medicine, and robotics. The emergence of the 3D-printed actuators field and its achievements was enabled by advances in four key areas: active materials, additive manufacturing, reduced-order modeling, and design optimization. Recent research activities residing at the intersection of the aforementioned areas show great promise in creating a new class of transformable 3D actuators capable of changing their shape, dimension, speed, and adaptation to a myriad of internal and external stimuli. This Special Issue addresses the scientific and engineering challenges and reports recent advancements and discoveries in the field of 3D-printed actuators and collecting the manuscripts include but are not limited to the field: large range of motion, fabrication, miniaturization, distributive actuation and control, transformable and reconfigurable actuators, etc.

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