

Microsystems Technologies for Powering the 'Internet of Things-IoT'

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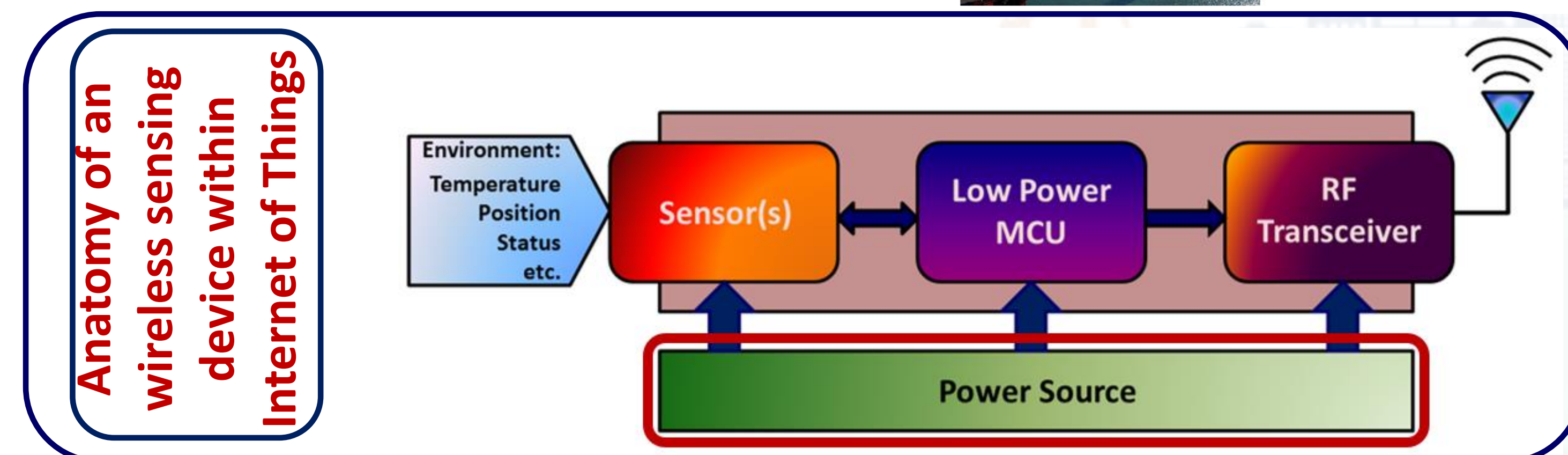


Abstract

With 'Energy' identified as one of the most significant challenges facing the society, our aim is to deliver novel solutions in efficient energy management for next generation of low-power electronics. Our activities are focused on enabling self-powered, sensor-driven condition monitoring applications leading to 'smart and sustainable environment', where the required power will be derived from the ambience and the harvested power will be delivered wirelessly.

Introduction Vision: Trillion sensors (TSensors) eco-system by 2035

- Spatially distributed trillions of tiny Wireless Sensors will exchange information among each other.
- Goal: Smart, Sustainable Environment -
 - Energy efficiency
 - Resource efficiency

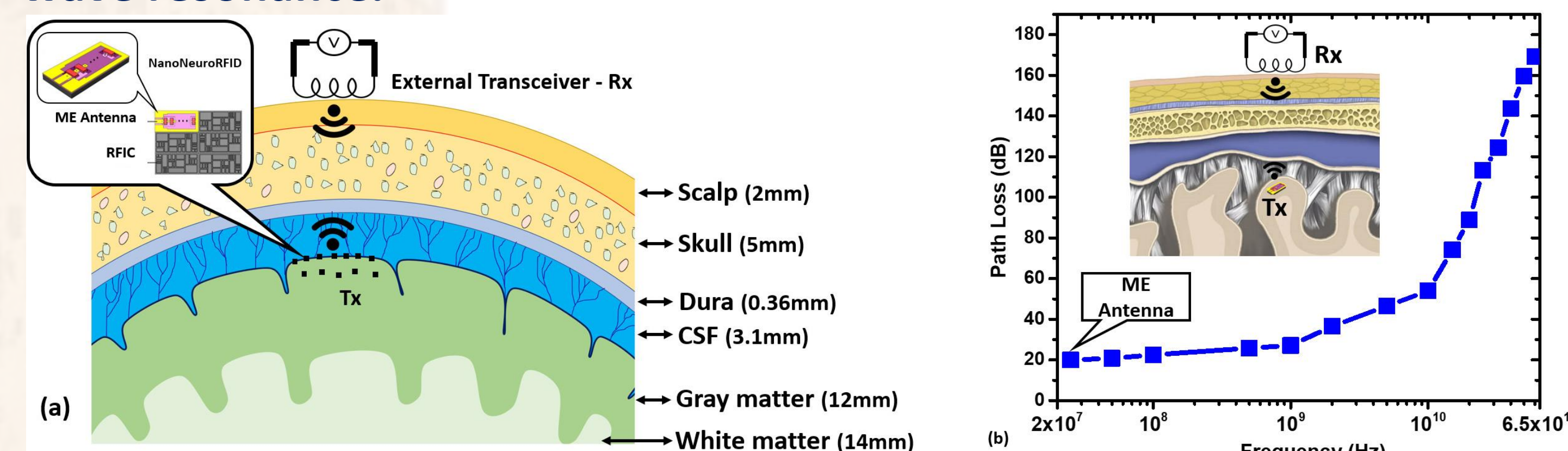


Can we afford to have trillion batteries?

We are aiming to develop novel energy solutions for perpetually powering the low-power sensors through innovations in micro-systems technologies.

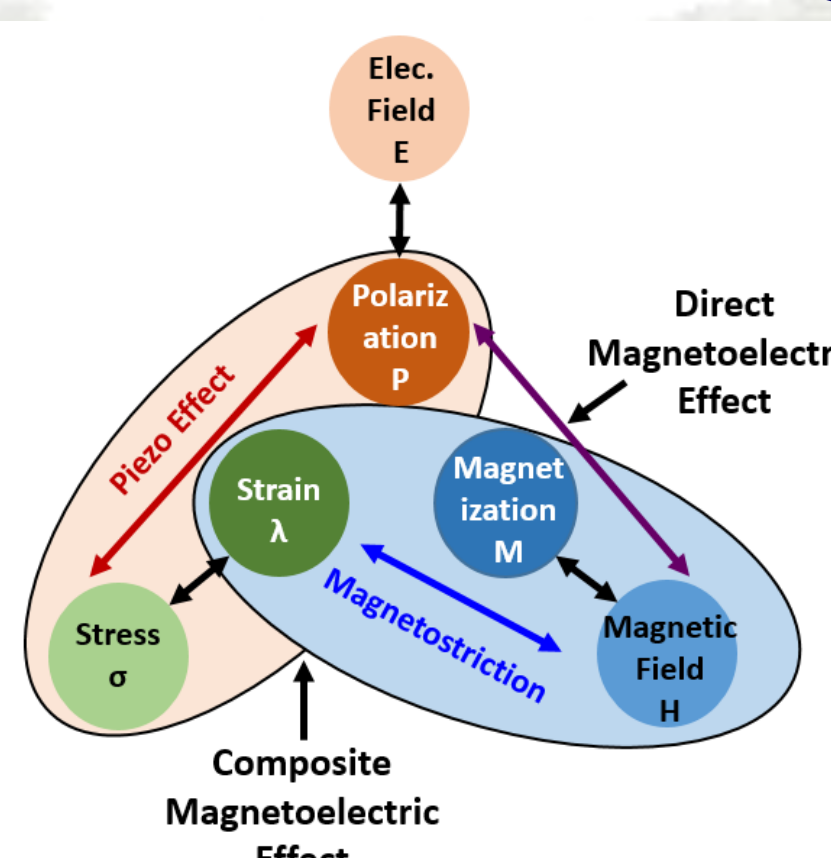
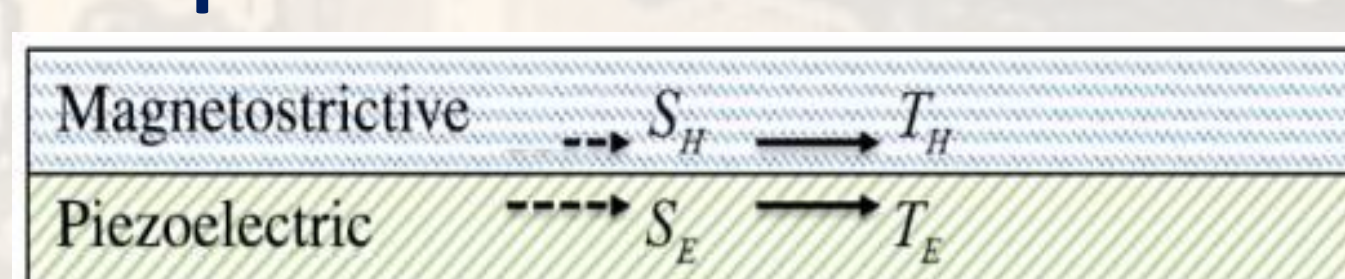
Wireless Power Transfer (WPT) for Implantable Devices

Key Challenge: Antenna size miniaturization³. Restriction due to EM wave resonance.



Composite Magnetolectric (ME) Effect:

- Product property
- Suitable for room-temperature applications
- Passive Nature – little to no power consumption



Conceptual diagram of ME Transducer for WPT Applications

Use of acoustic resonance reduces the device dimensions to MEMS/NEMS scale.

Our Group's Expertize

MEMS/Micro-systems Engineering

Material Integration

- Device Compatible
- Magnetic/PZT/ME
- Intelligent Integration Schemes

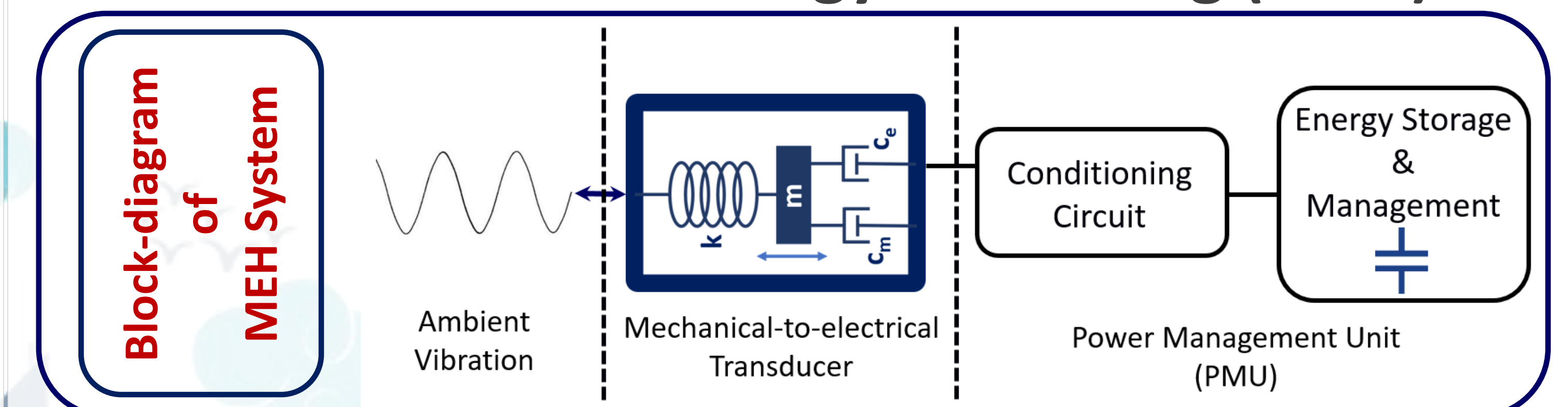
Device Development

- Multi-physics simulation and analysis
- Micro-fabrication
- MEMS device characterizations

Interface Electronics

- Focused on application
- Device specific
- Complete system integration

Ambient Mechanical Energy Harvesting (MEH)

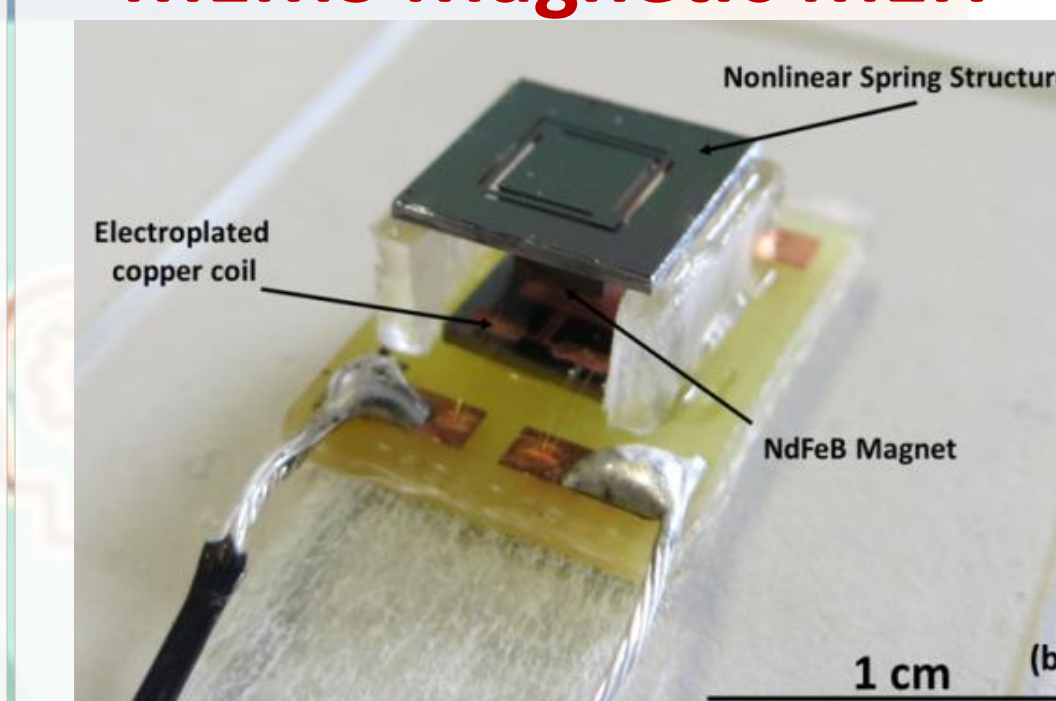


Target Applications:

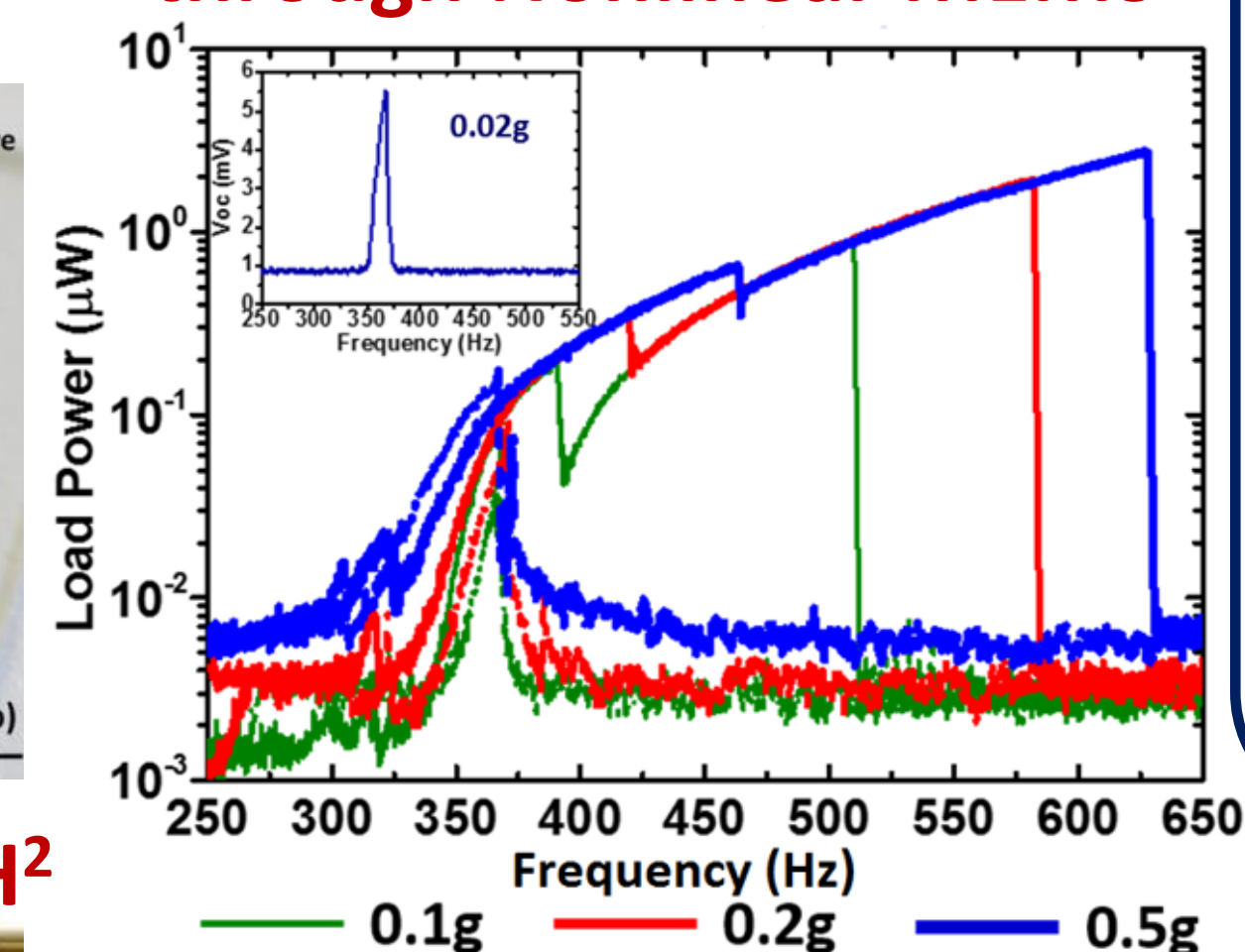
1. Industrial monitoring, 2. Building monitoring, 3. Body-worn devices.

Solutions:

MEMS Magnetic MEH¹



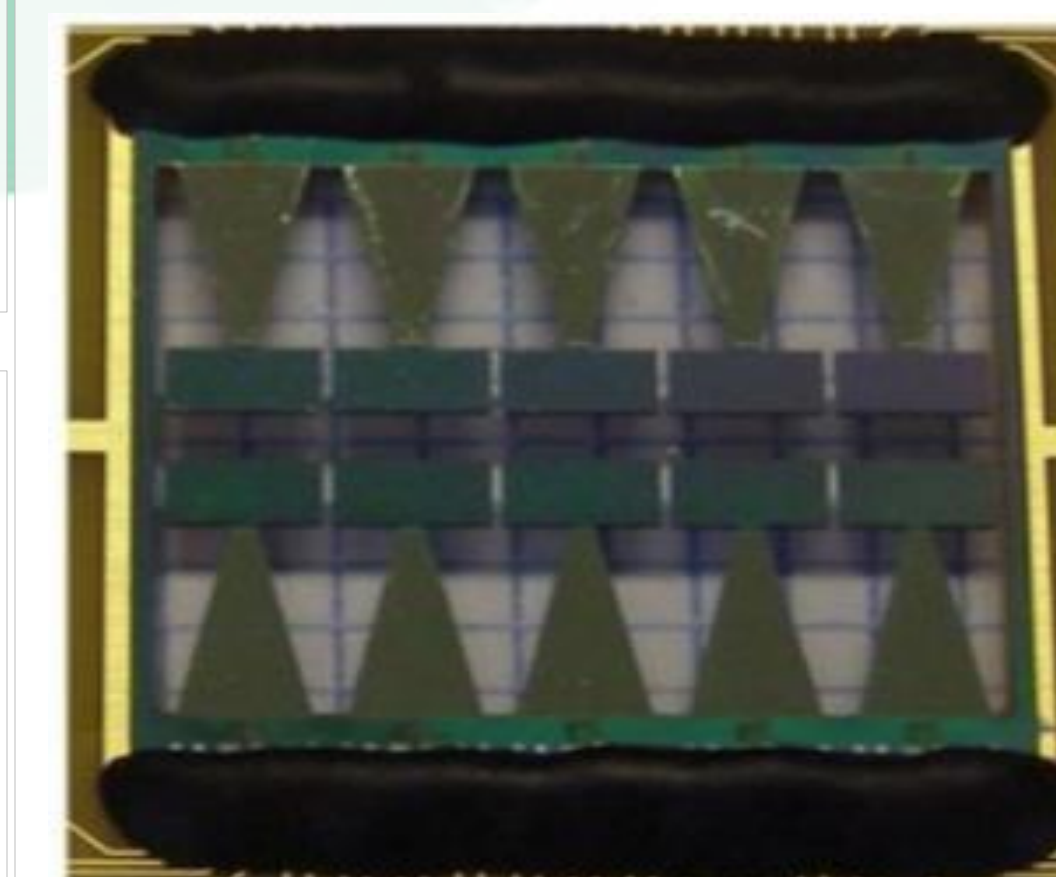
Wideband operation through Nonlinear MEMS



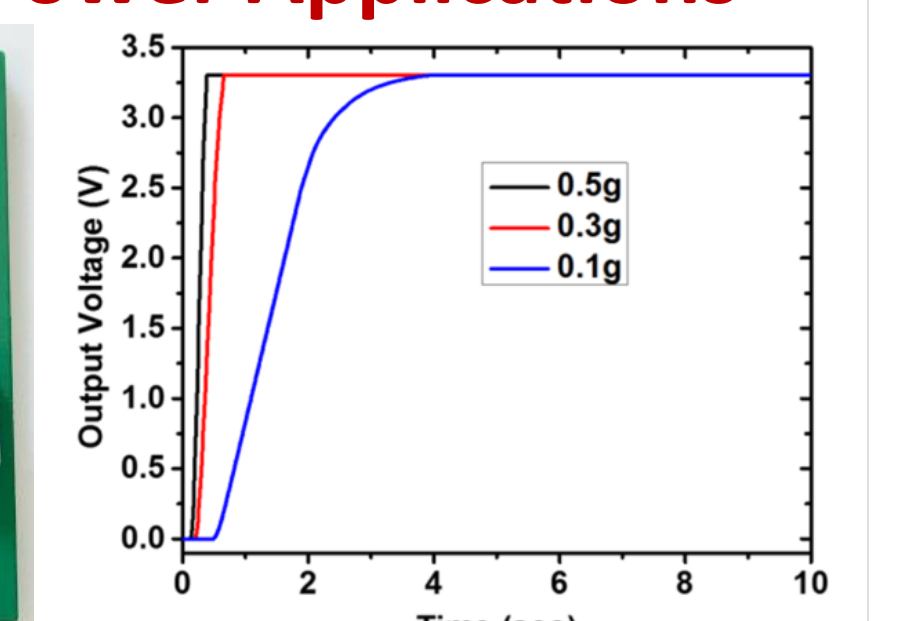
Key outputs:

- ~100 μW at 0.5g
- Device volume 0.1 cm³
- ~100 Hz wide bandwidth

MEMS Piezoelectric MEH²



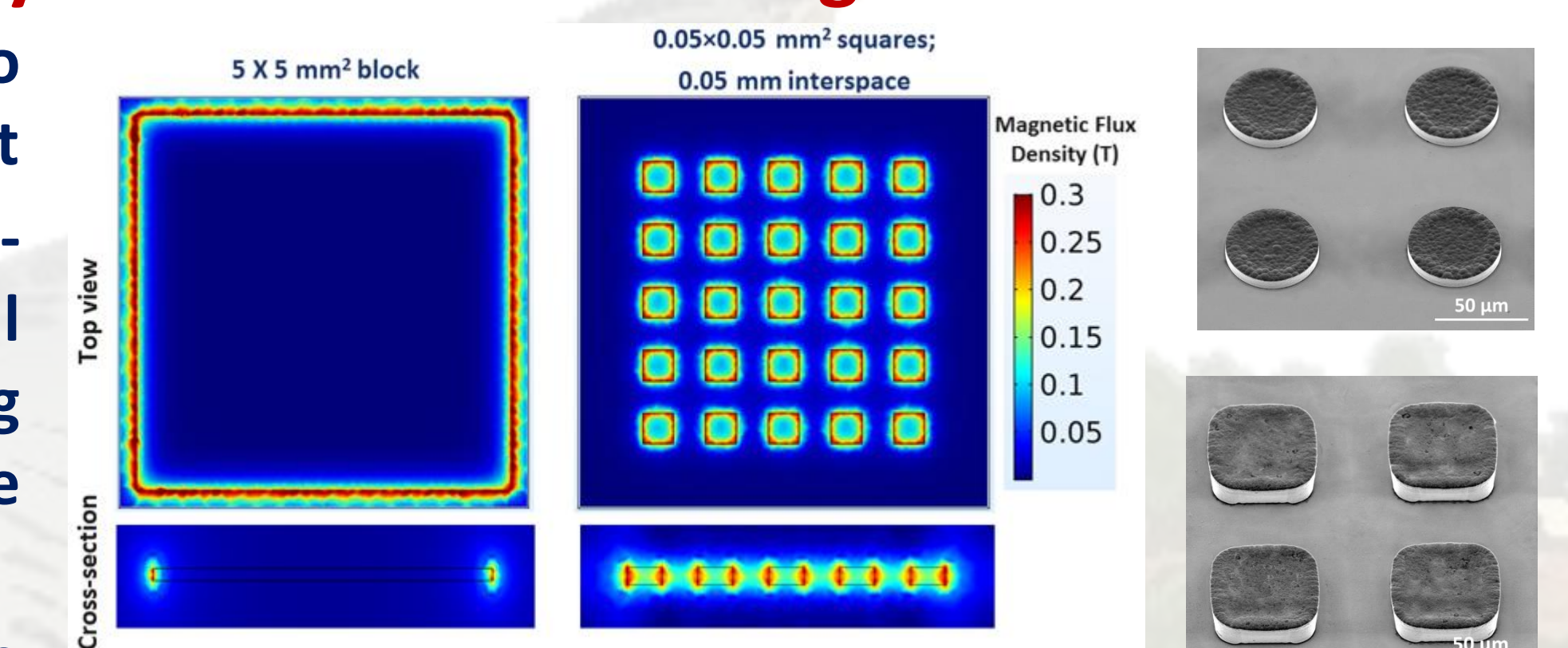
PCB based Power Management Circuit for Low Voltage, Low Power Applications



Zero-Power Actuation in Microfluidics

Enabled by Permanent Micro-Magnets

- Contactless actuation – no on-chip power requirement
- Remote control of nano-particles – cell manipulation, drug trapping, localised pressure application
- Room temperature operation, CMOS compatible.



High energy product CoPtP micro-magnets developed using CMOS compatible processes⁵

References

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- [3] M. Zaeimbashi et al., IEEE J ELECTROMAGNETICS, RF, AND MICROWAVES IN MEDICINE AND BIOLOGY, 3(3), 206-215 (2019).
- [4] D. Mallick et al, Phys. Rev. Lett., 119:197701 (2016).
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