

**#16.2**

**Cut-and-Paste Organic FET Customized  
ICs for Application to Artificial Skin**

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# Outline

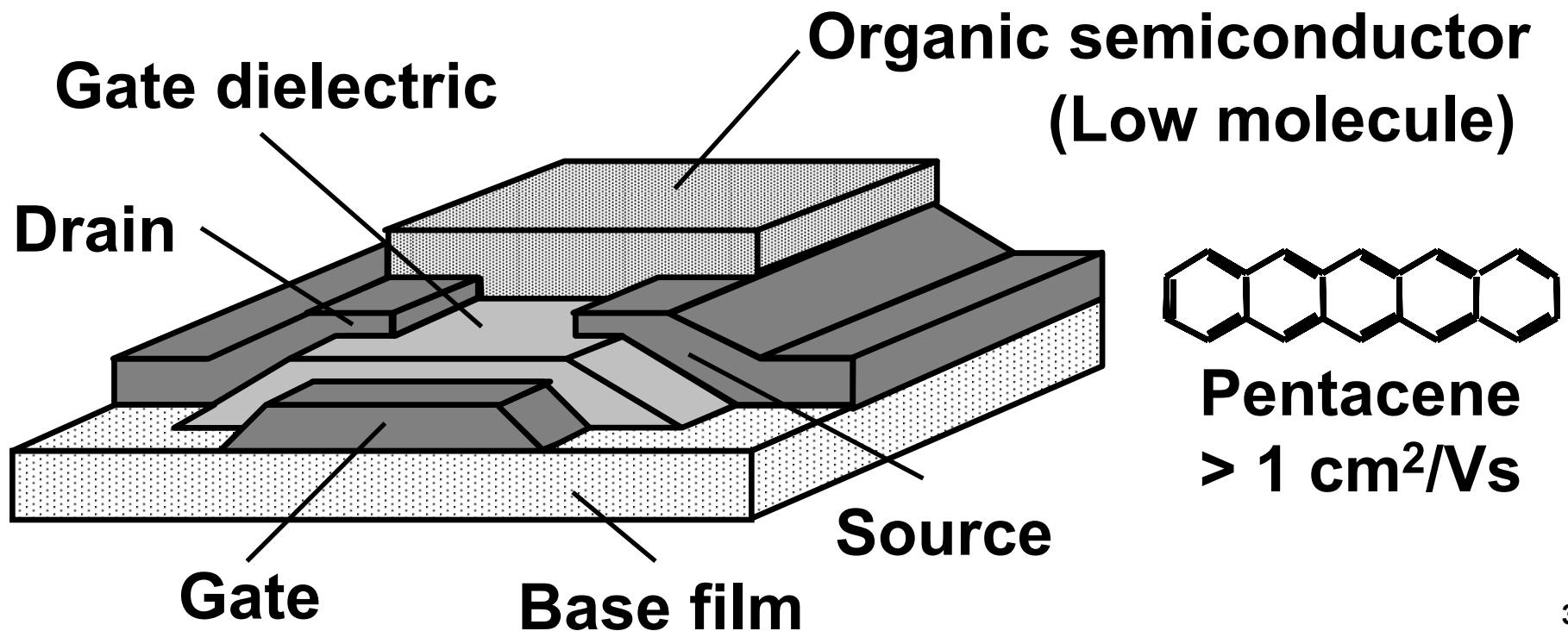
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- **Introduction & motivation**
- **Manufacturing process**
- **Circuit design**
- **Results & discussion**
- **Summary**

# Introduction

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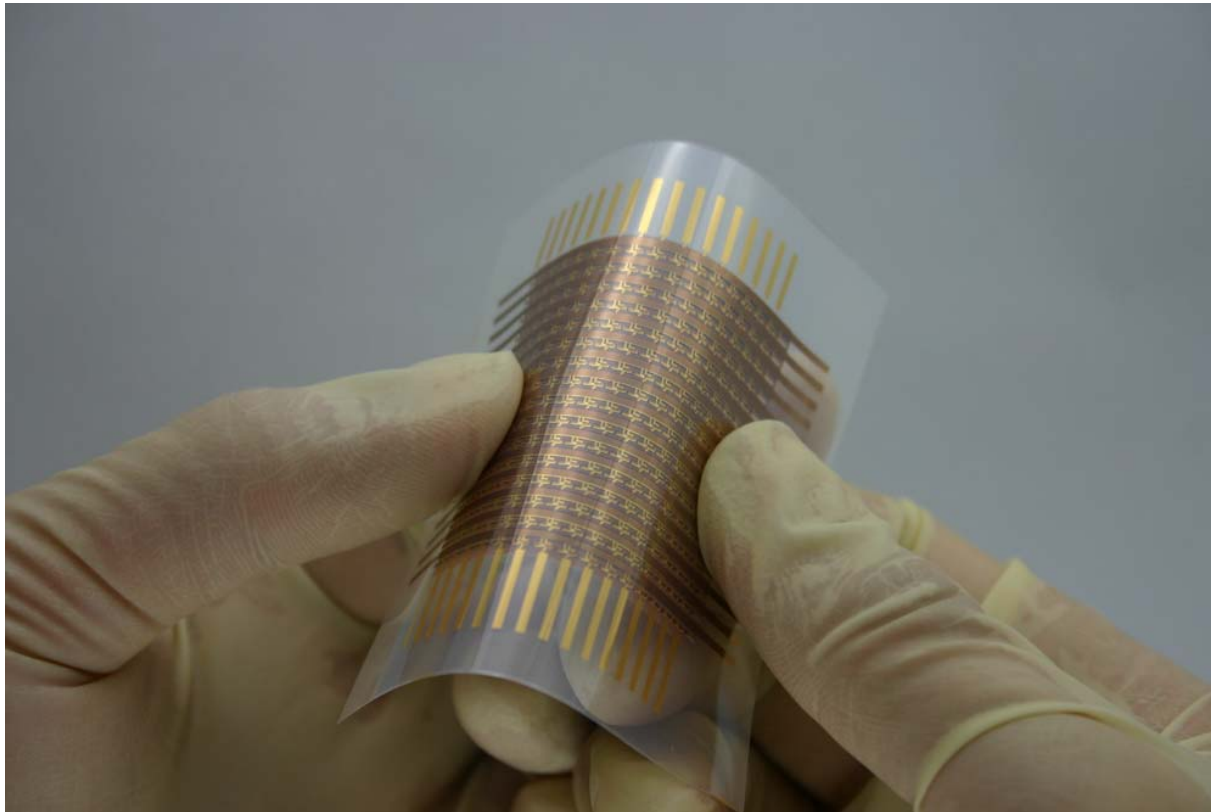
- **Attributes of organic transistors**
  - **Mechanically flexible**
  - **Large area manufacturability**
  - **Potentially low cost manufacturing**



# Motivation

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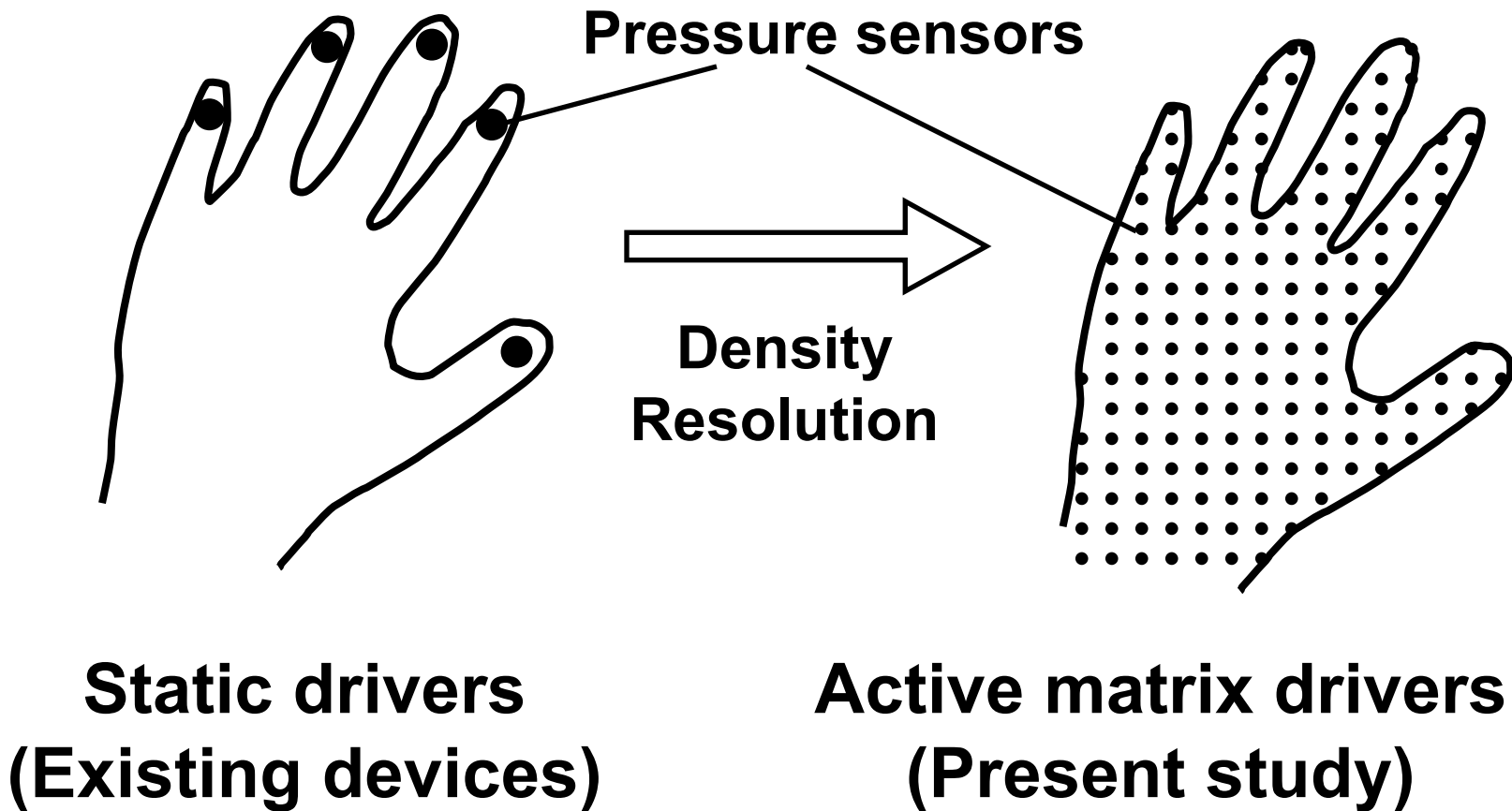
- **Two driving applications of organic FETs**  
RF ID tags and displays
- **Our proposal: flexible, large-area sensors**  
Organic FET + pressure sensor = artificial skin



# Tactile sensors for robots

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- A sensitive skin with 1,000~1M pressure sensors requires flexible, large-area switches.

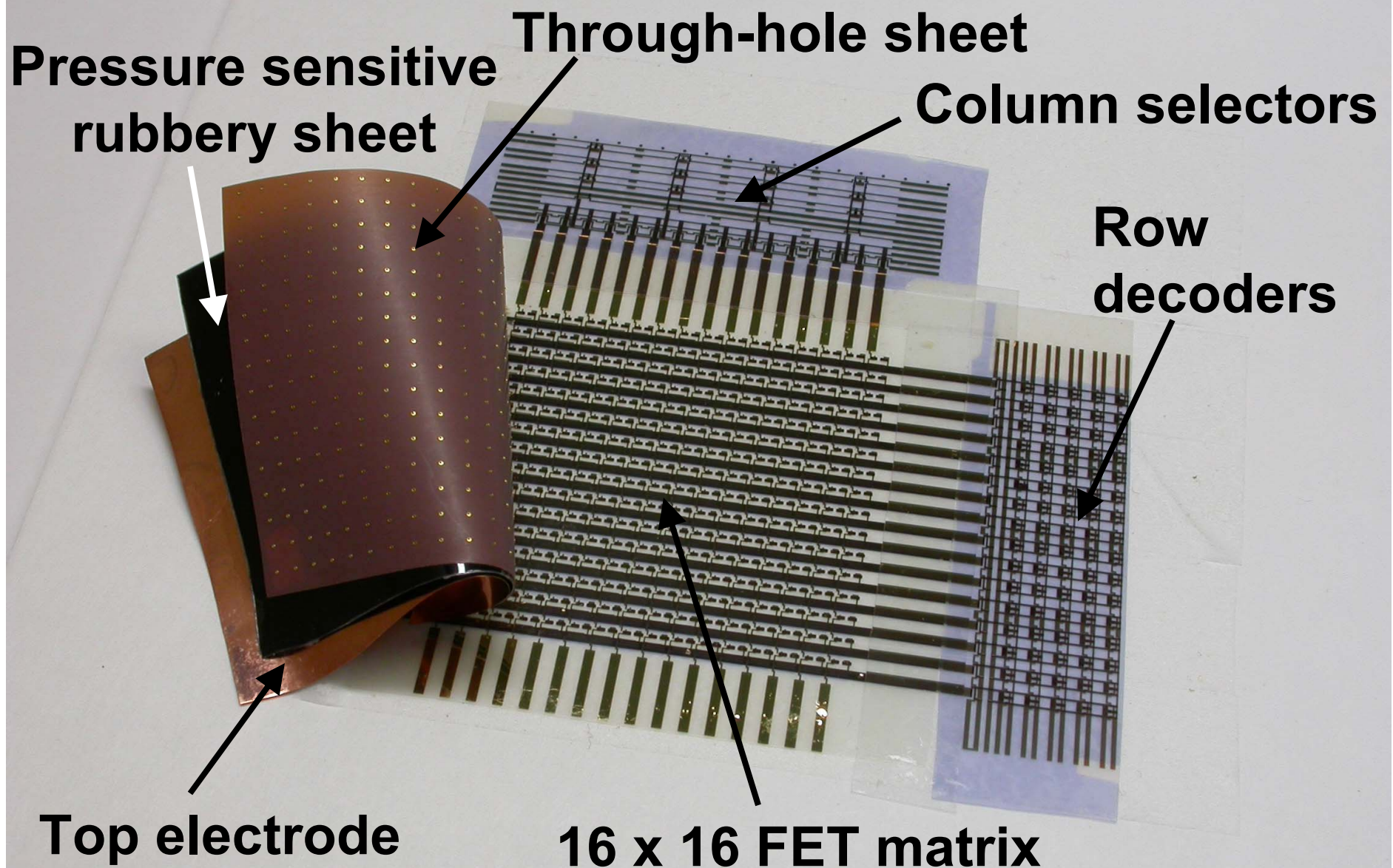


# Manufacturing process

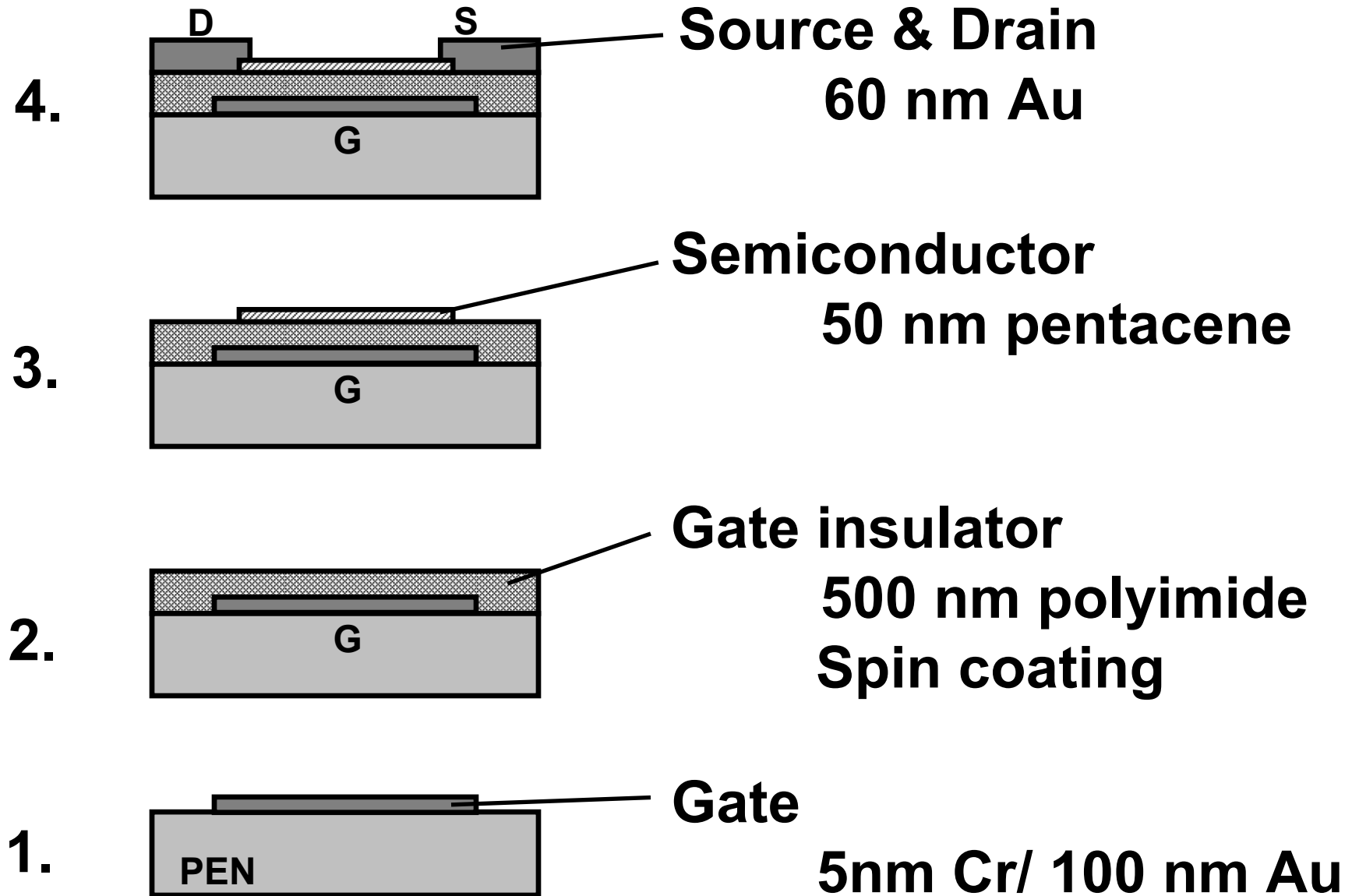
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# Picture of artificial skin



# Manufacturing process (I)

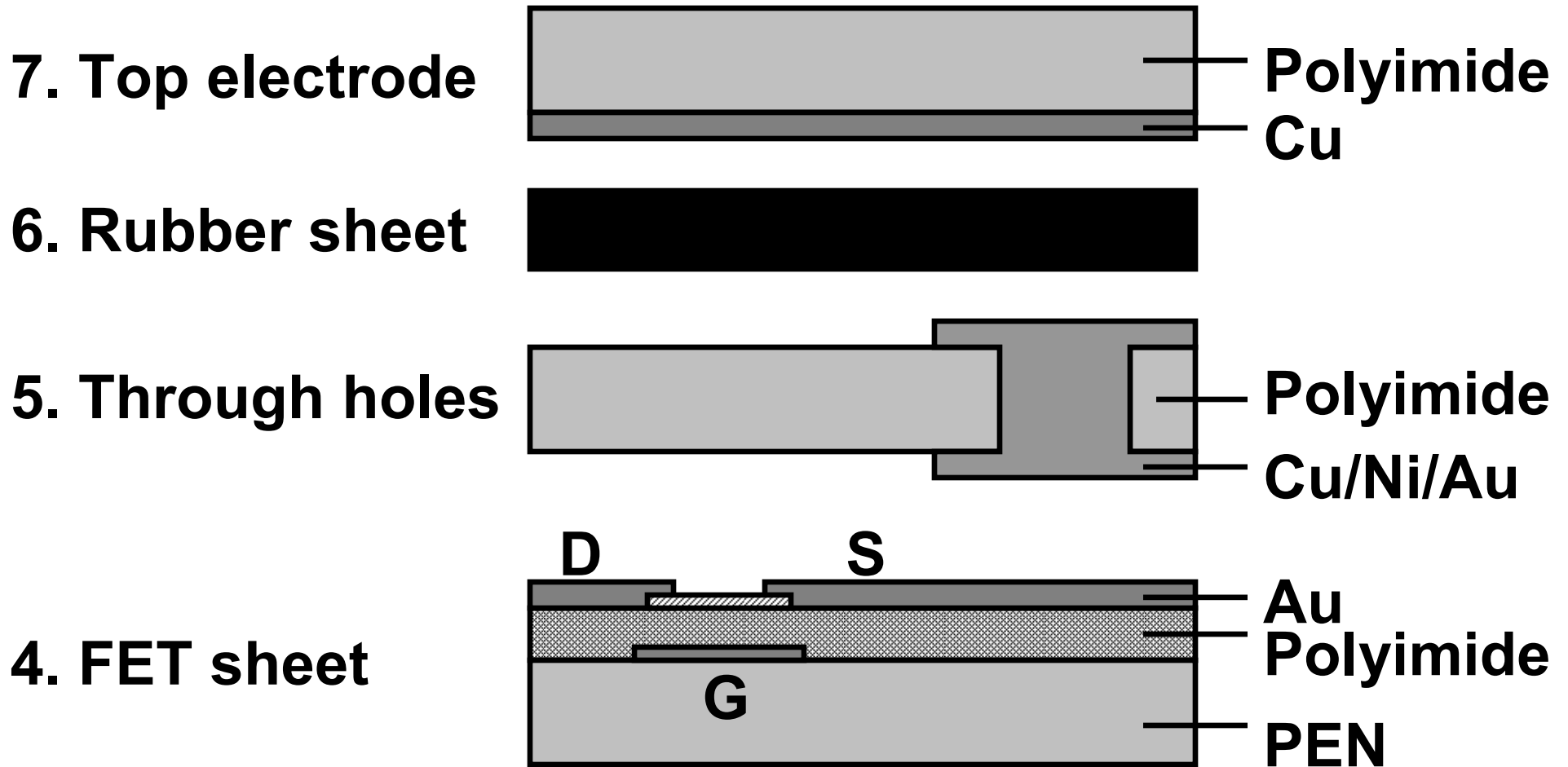




# Manufacturing process (II)

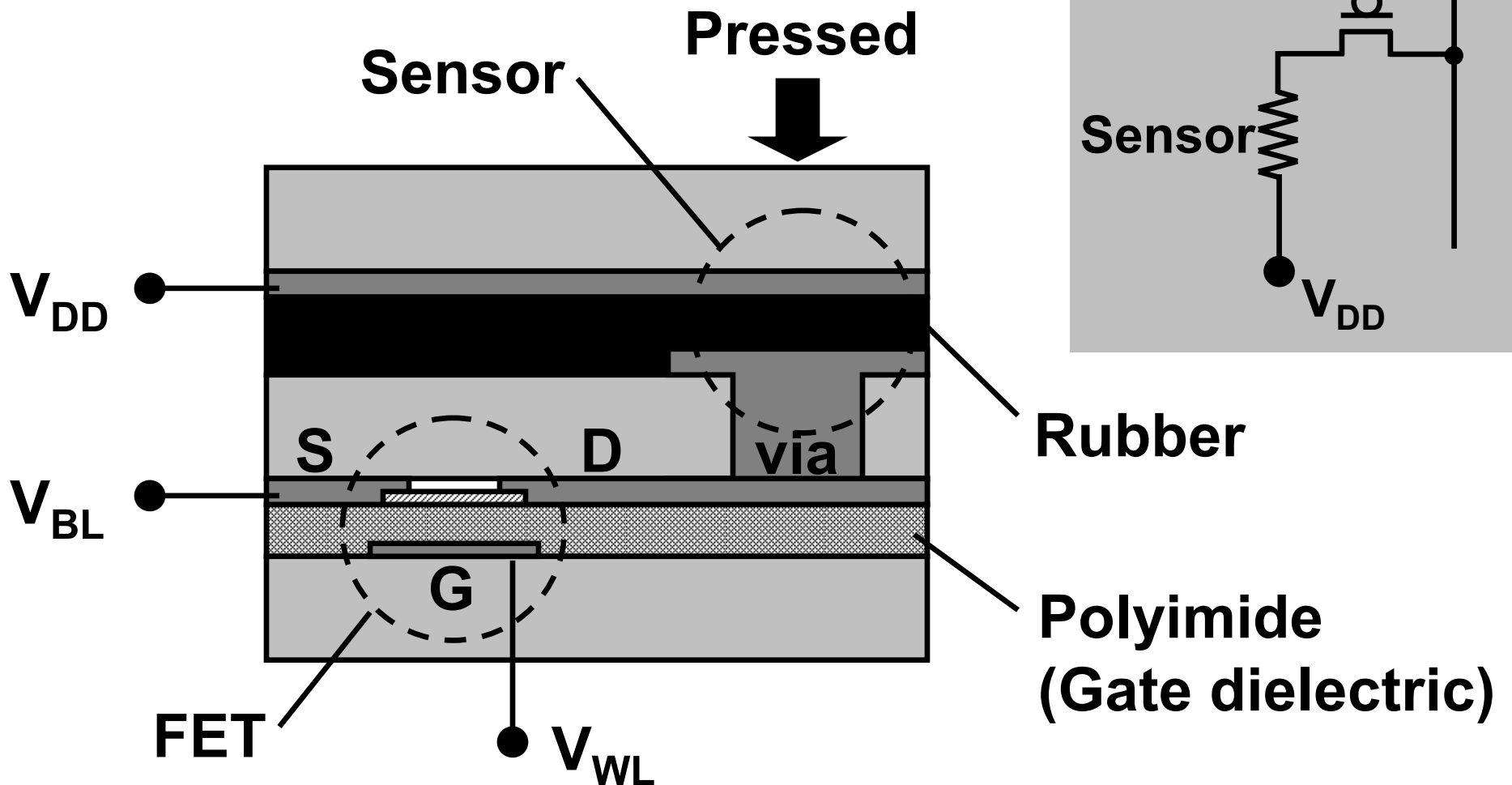
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The device is manufactured with laminating four different sheets.



# One sensor cell (Sencel)

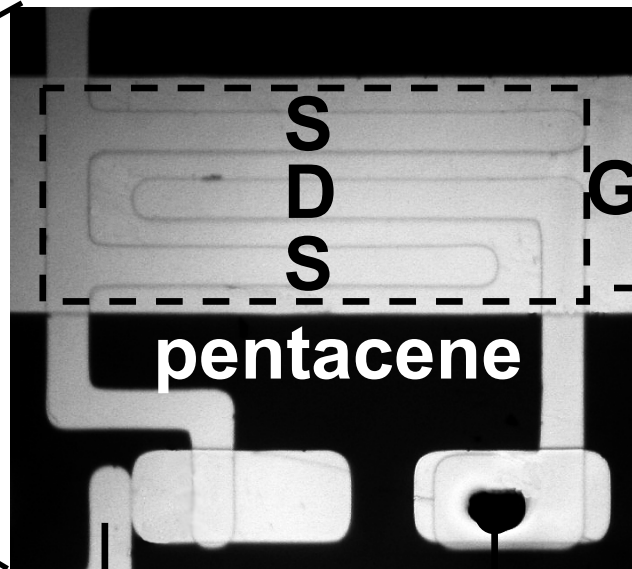
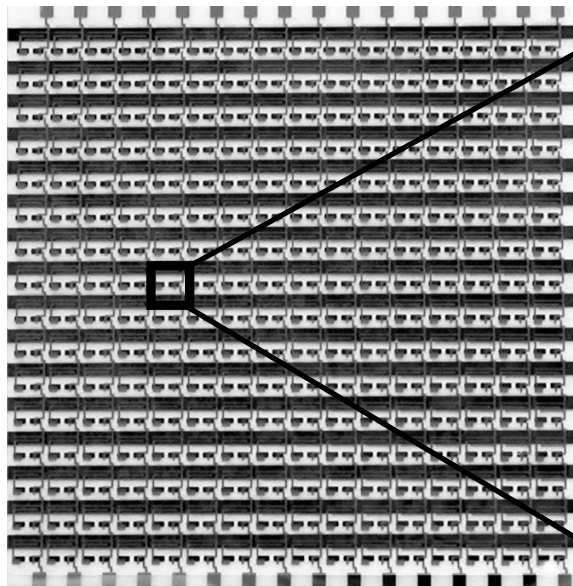
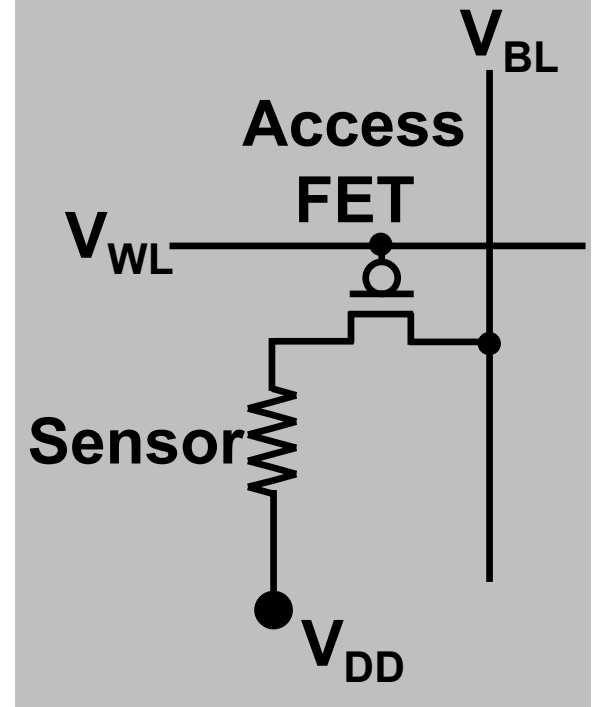
**FET + Sensor = Sencel**



# Sensor cell (Sencel)

16 x 16  
FET matrix  
4 x 4 cm<sup>2</sup>

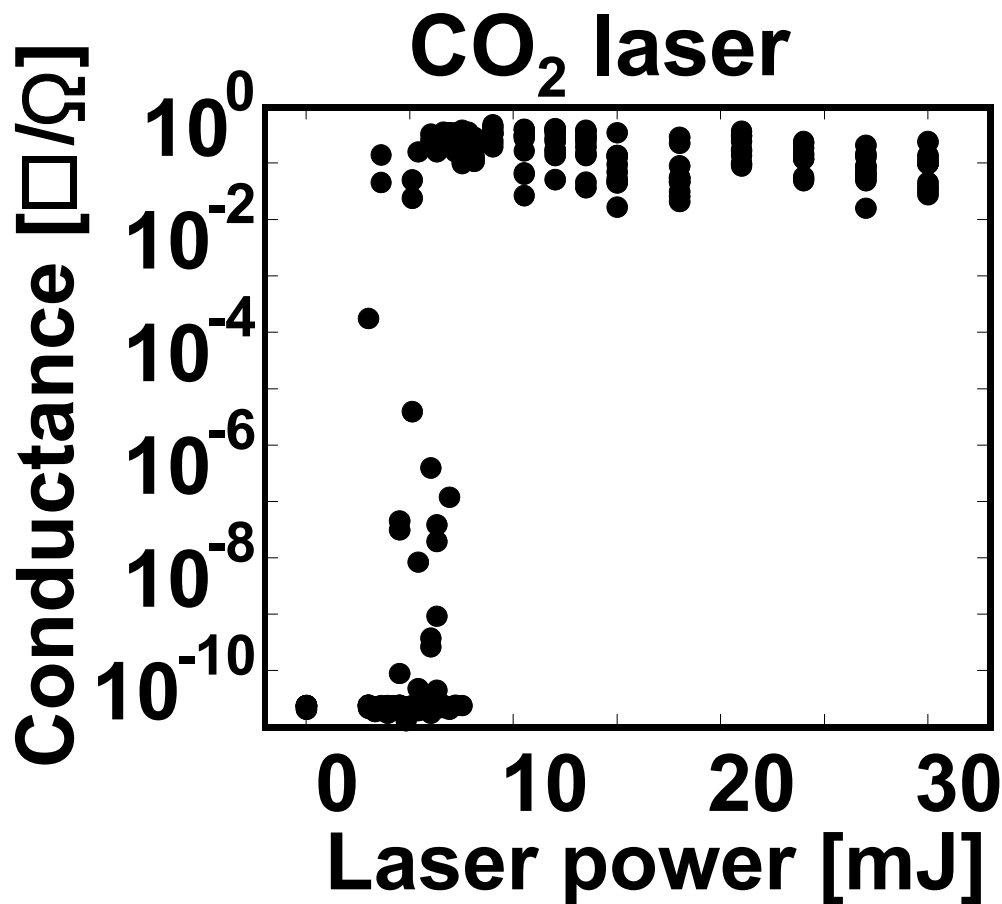
One sencel  
2.54 x 2.54 mm<sup>2</sup>



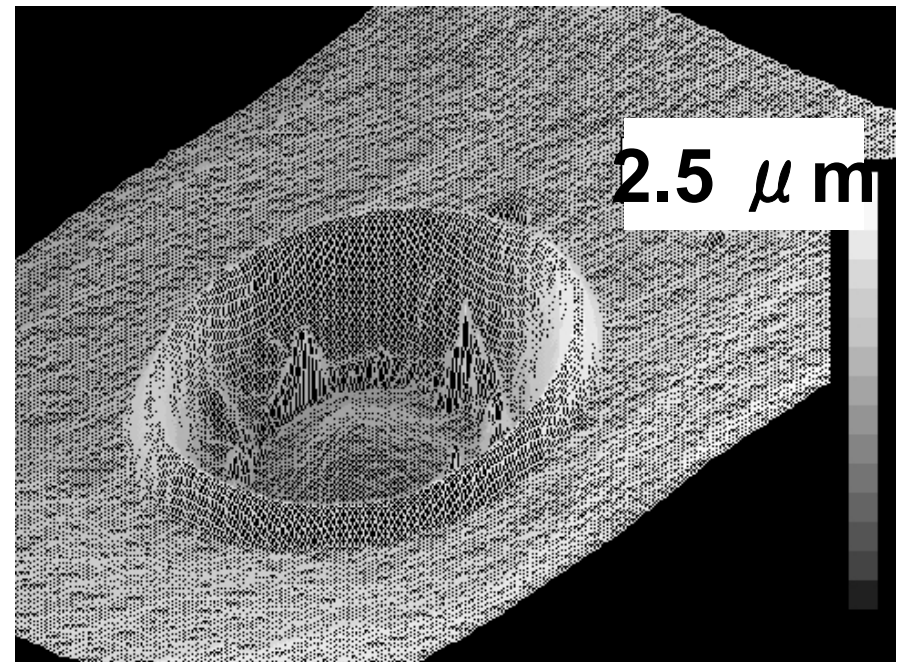
$V_{BL}$

sensor

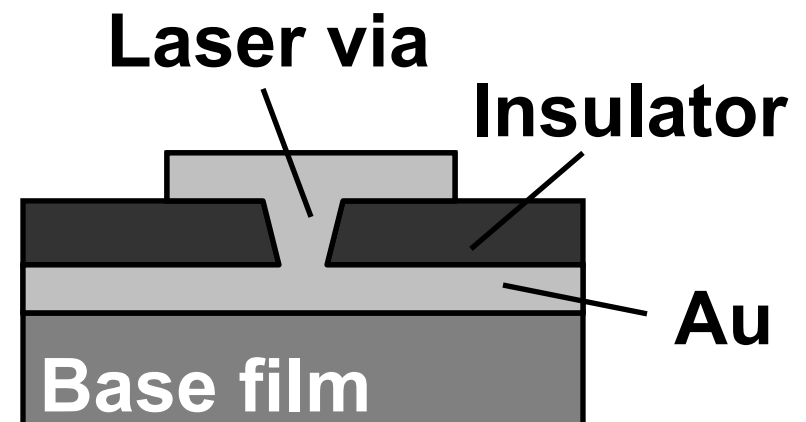
# Via holes by laser drilling machine



$\phi 90 \mu\text{m}$  via holes



**Yield > 99% /pulse  
( $R < 10 \Omega$ )**



# Circuit design

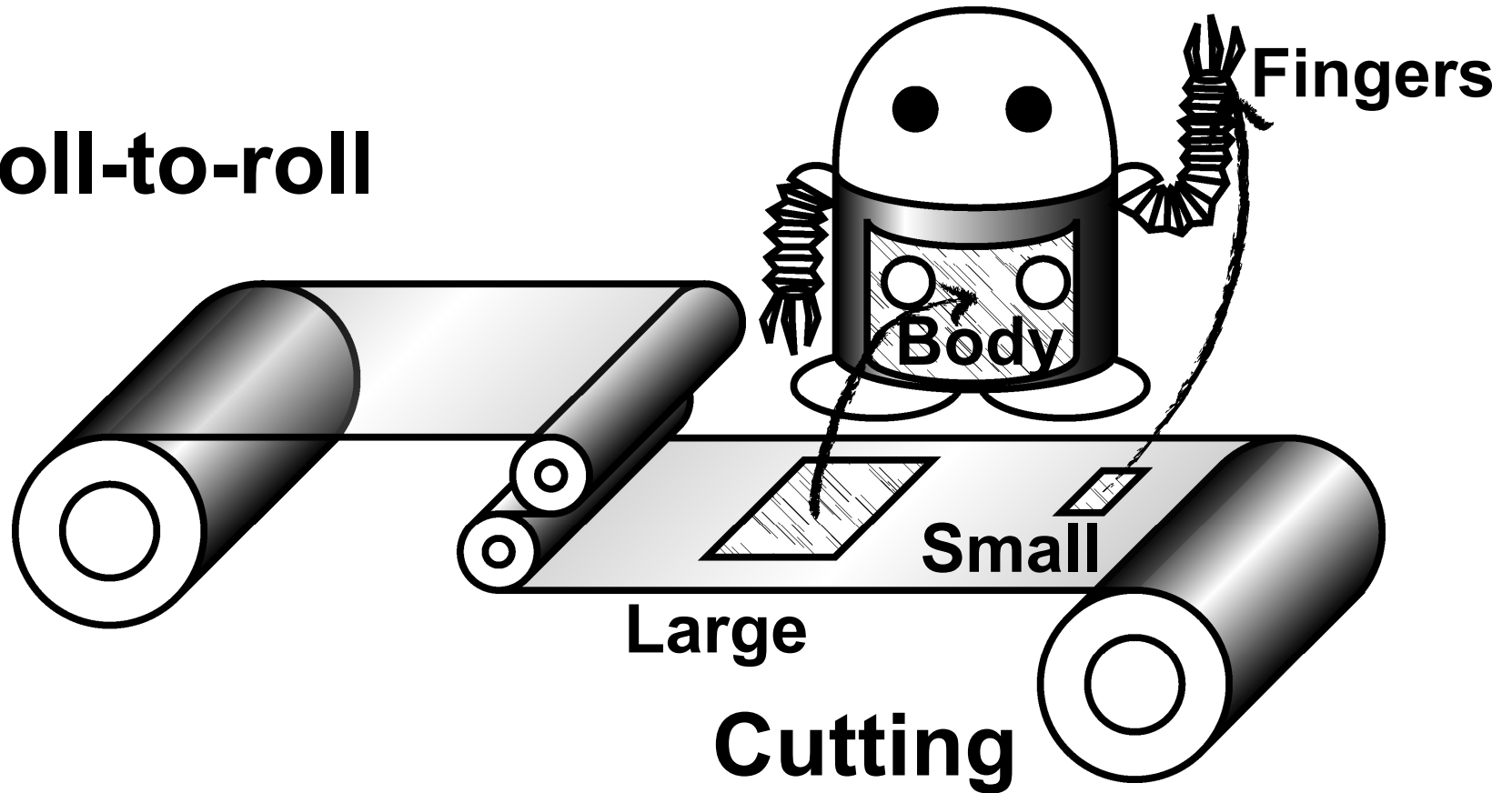
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# Concept

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**Roll-to-roll**

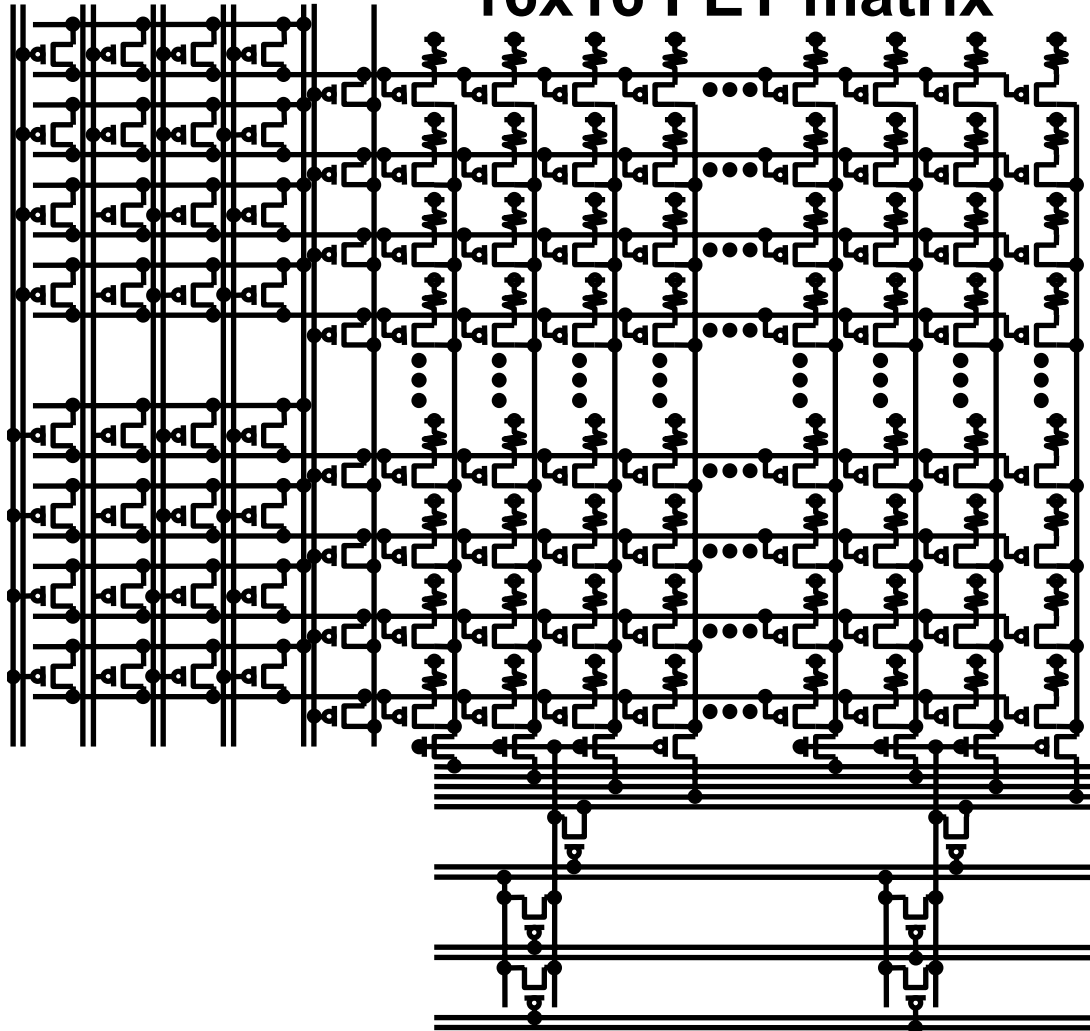


# Cut-and-paste feature

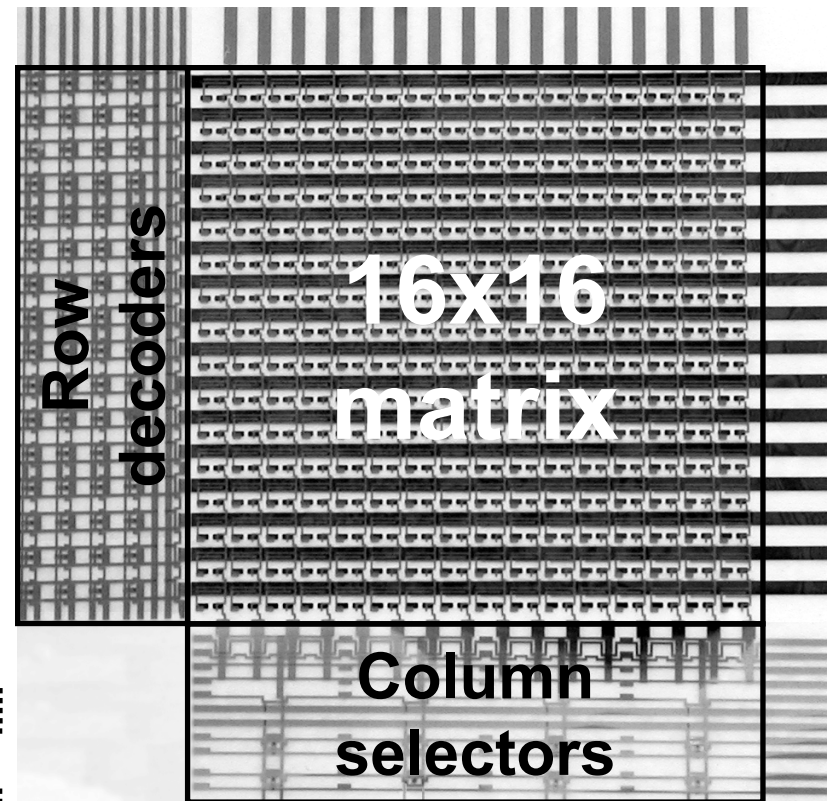
(scalable circuit concept)

Row  
decoders

16x16 FET matrix

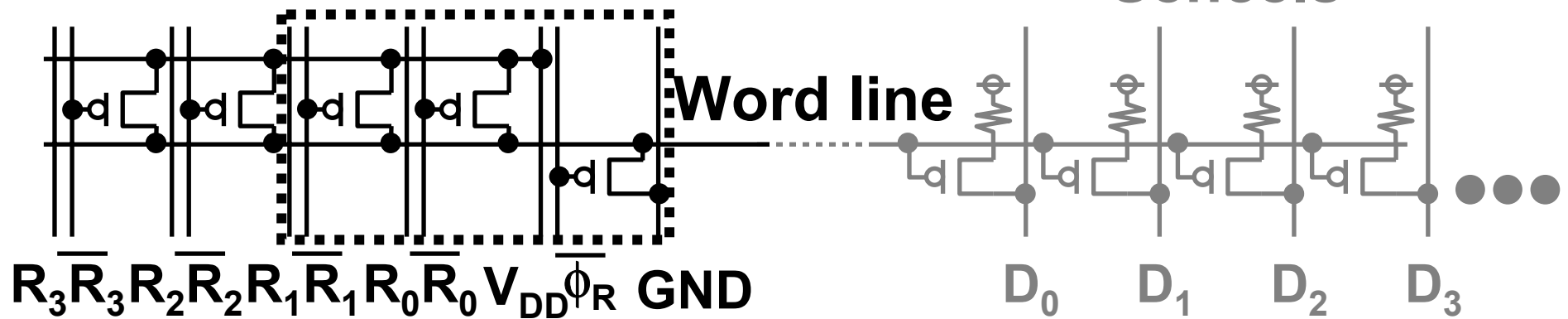


Column selectors

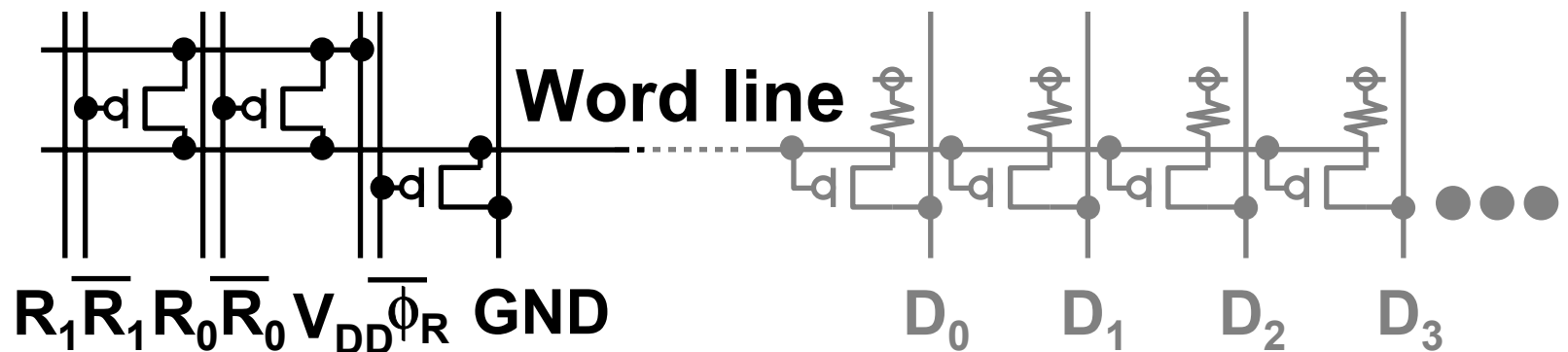


# Circuit scalability (row decoder)

1 out of 16 row decoders

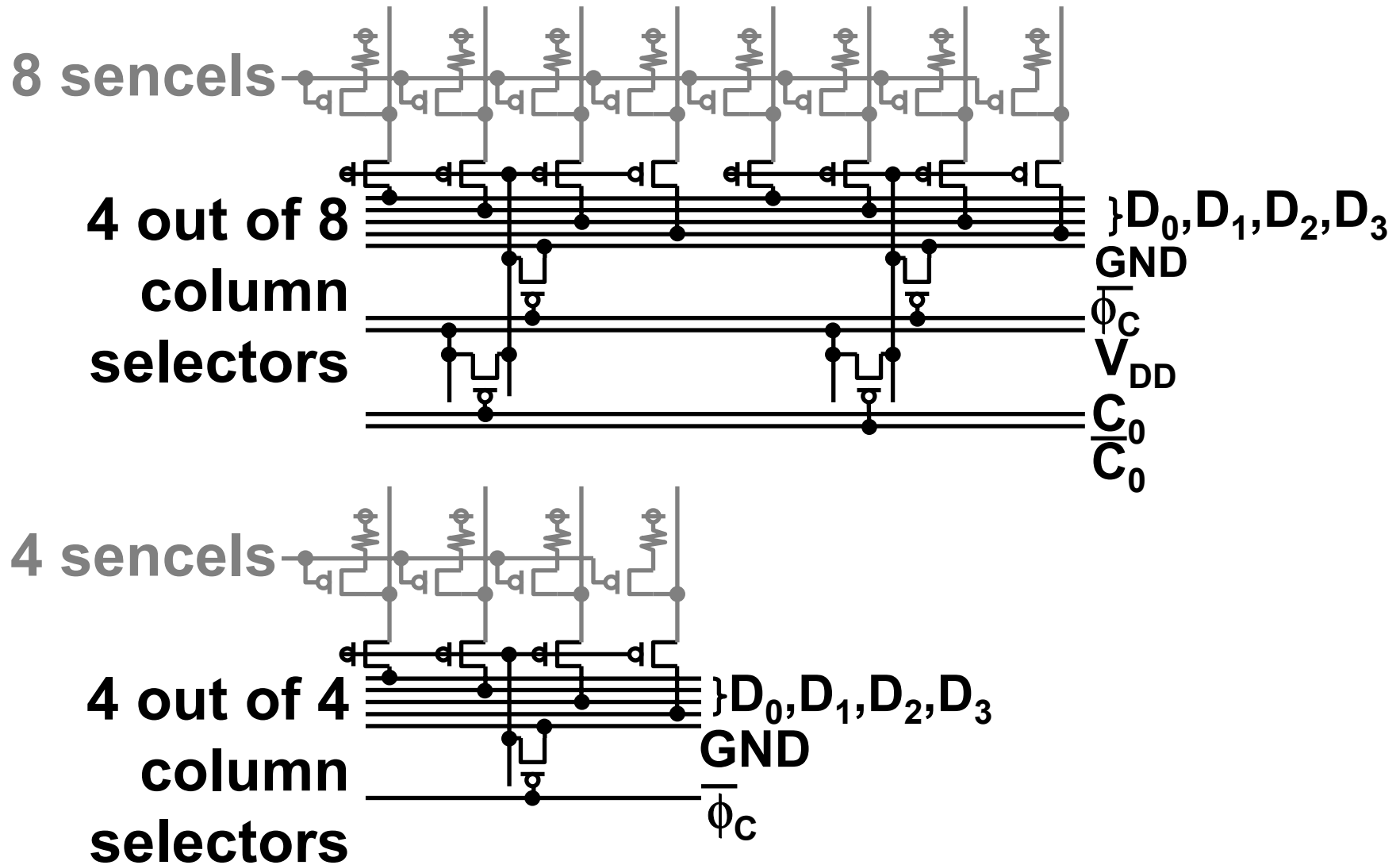


1 out of 4 row decoders

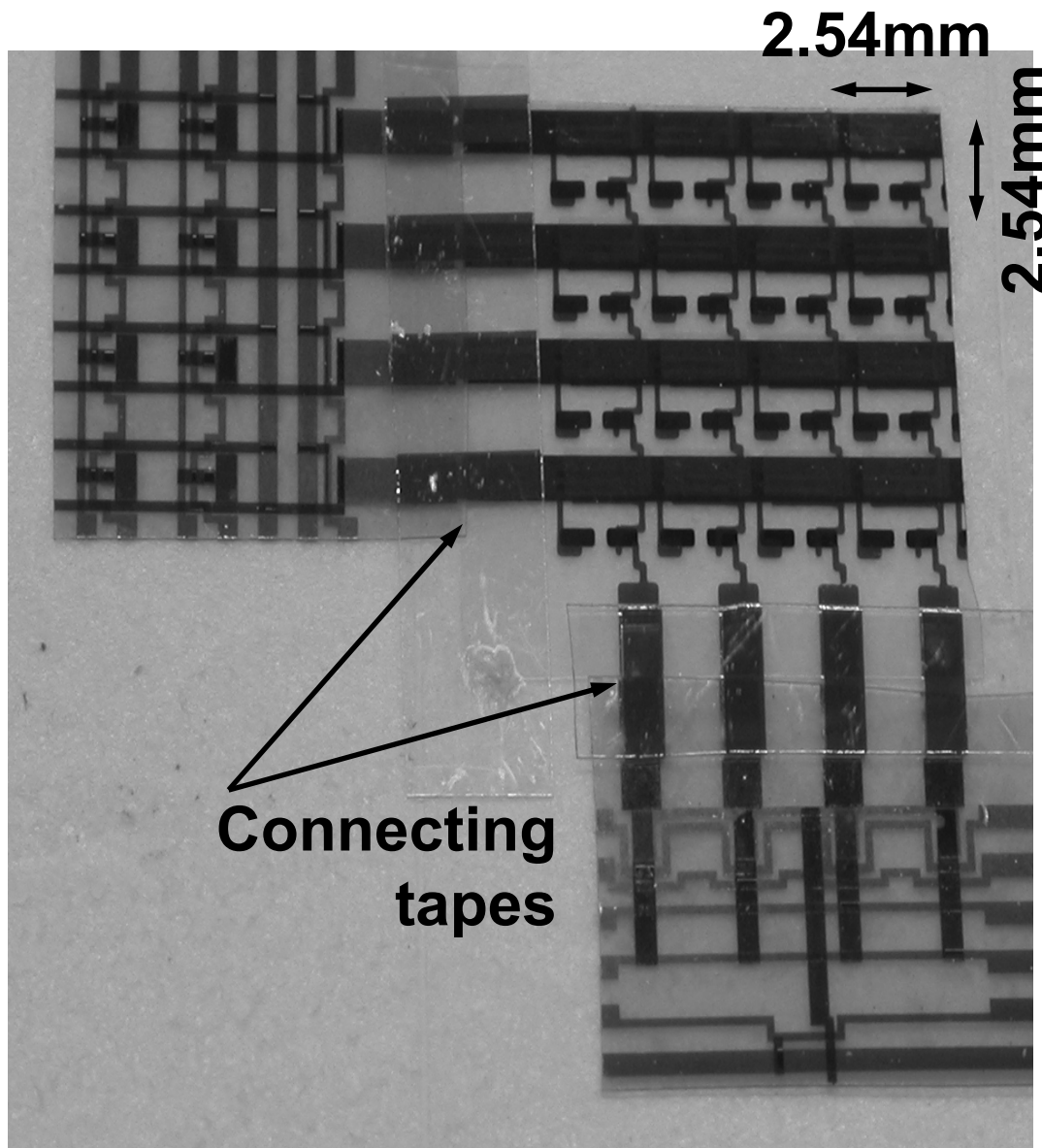




# Circuit scalability (column selector)

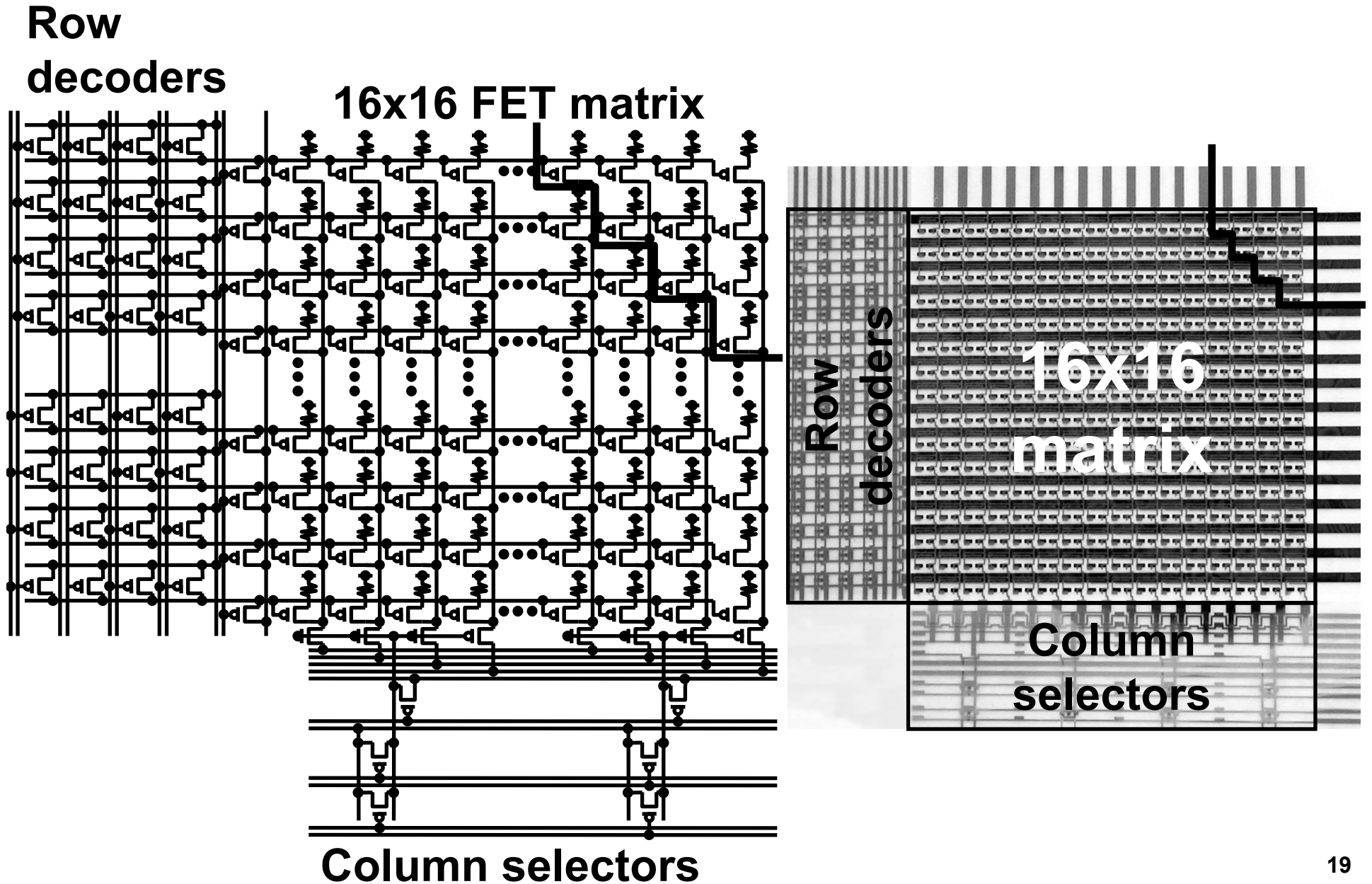


# Connecting tape to paste

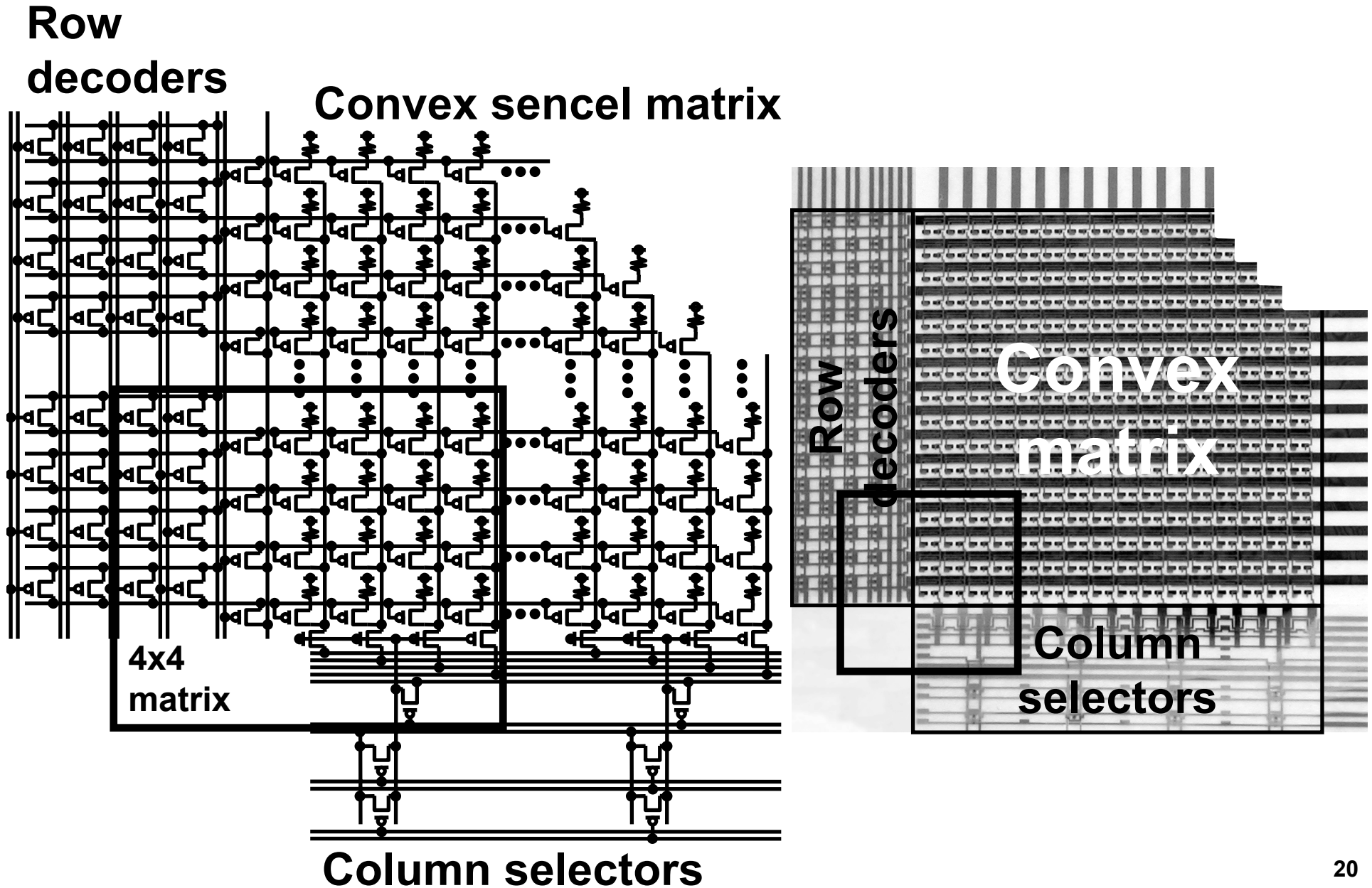


- Connects sheet to sheet
- PET film with 0.1-inch pitch Au lines
- Silver paste

# Cut-and-paste feature (16x16 sencels)

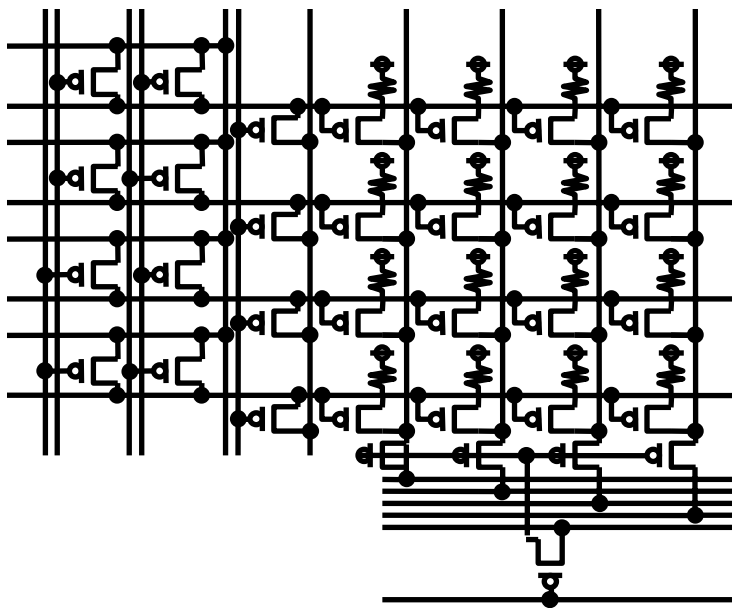


# Cut-and-paste feature (convex shape)



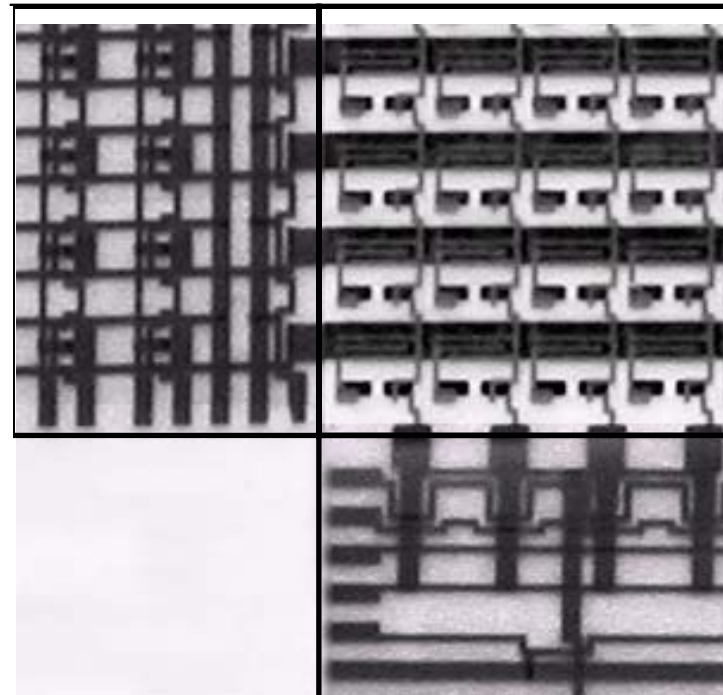
# Cut-and-paste feature (4x4 sencels)

Row  
decoders      4x4  
                 sencels



Column  
selectors

Row  
decoders      4x4 FET  
                 matrix



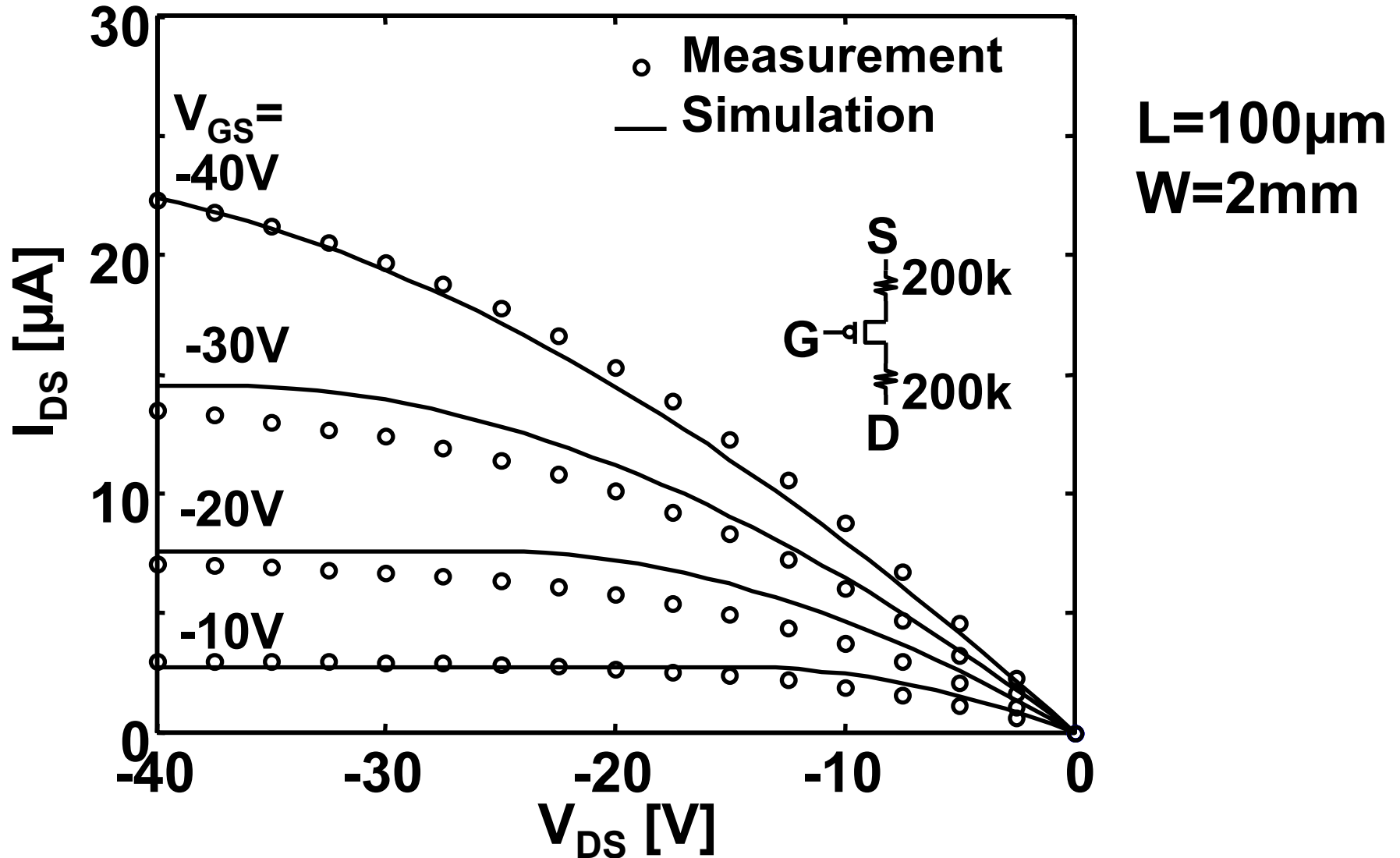
# Results & discussion

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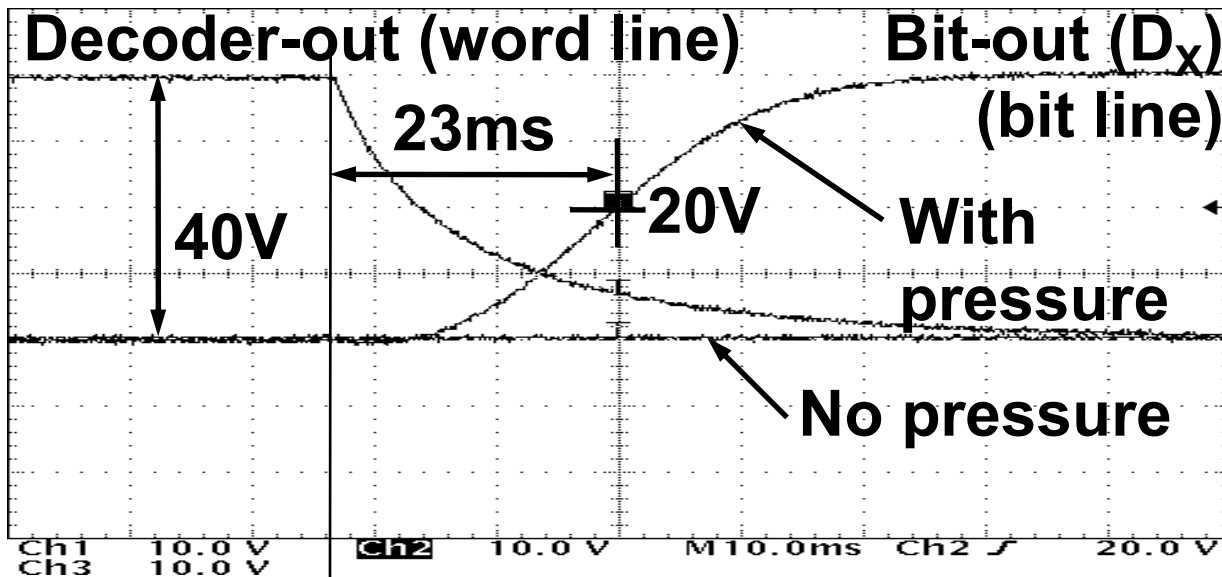
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# $V_{DS}$ - $I_{DS}$ characteristics

- Match level 1 SPICE MOS model with 200k  $\Omega$

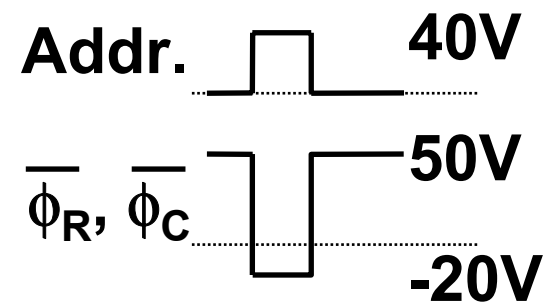
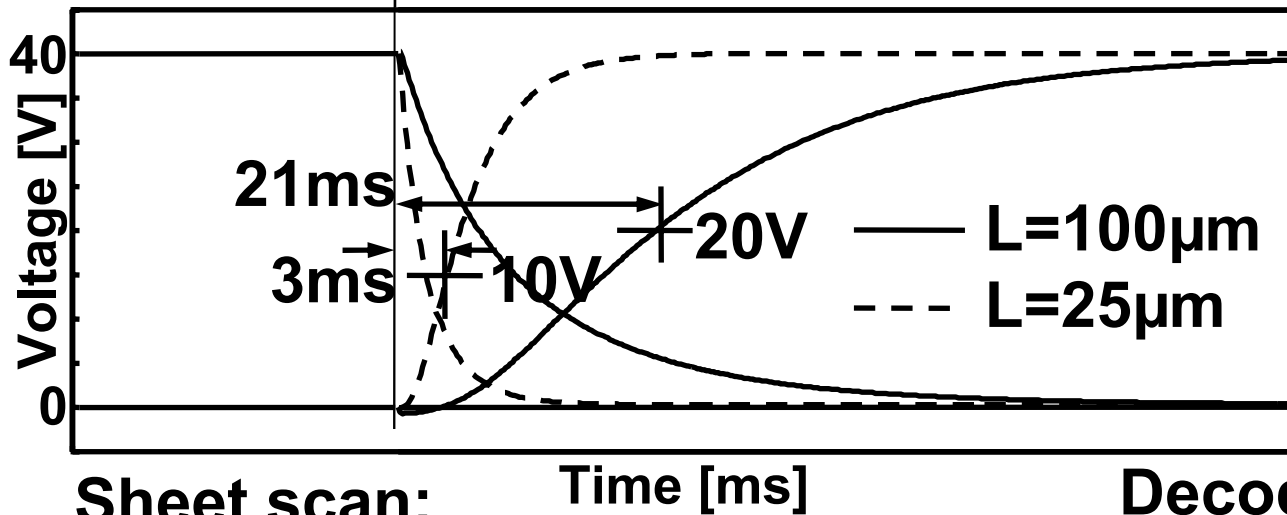


# Measured & simulated waveforms



- Access time: 23ms

- Cycle time: 30ms



Sheet scan:      Time [ms]

30ms x 16 x 4 = 2s @  $L=100\mu\text{m}$

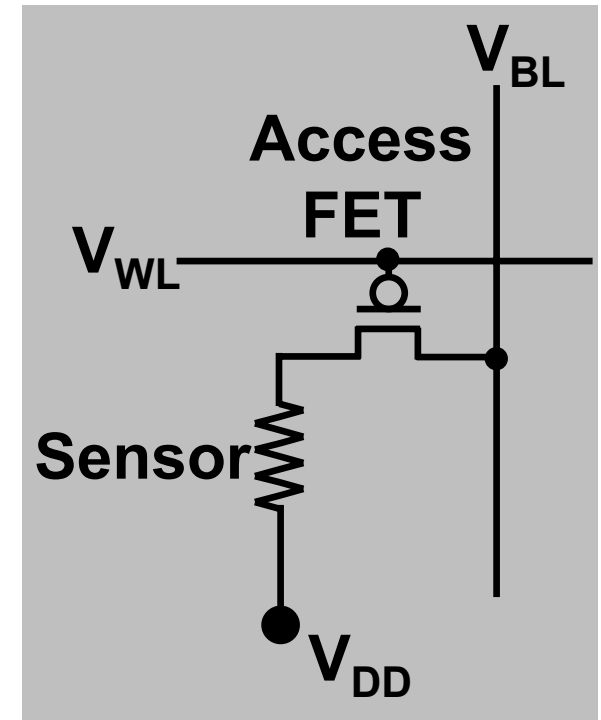
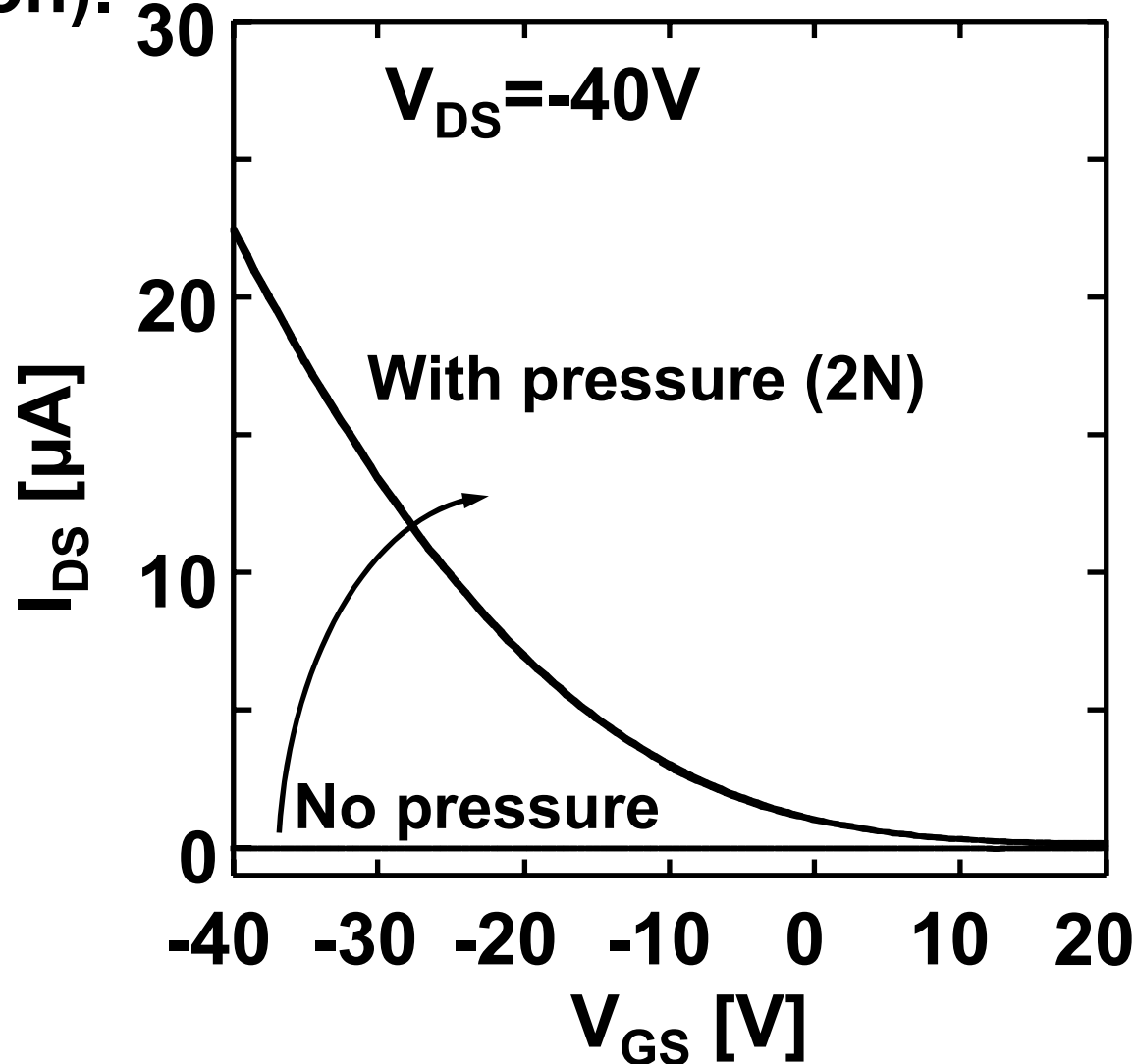
4ms x 16 x 4 = 0.25s @  $L=25\mu\text{m}$

Decoder-out & bit-out ( $D_x$ )



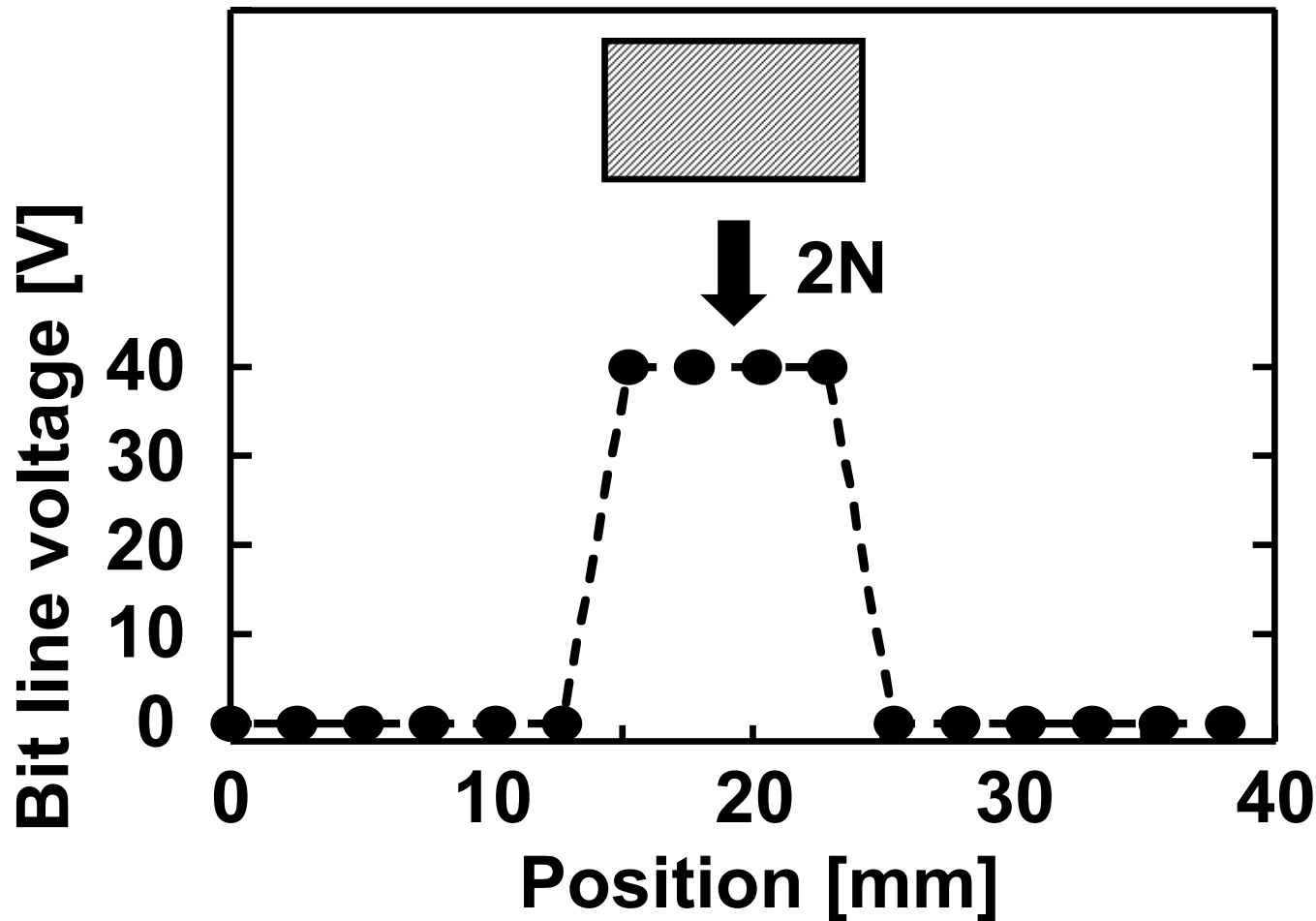
# $I_{DS}$ dependence on pressure

- Resistance changes between  $10\text{M}\Omega$  (off) &  $1\text{k}\Omega$  (on).



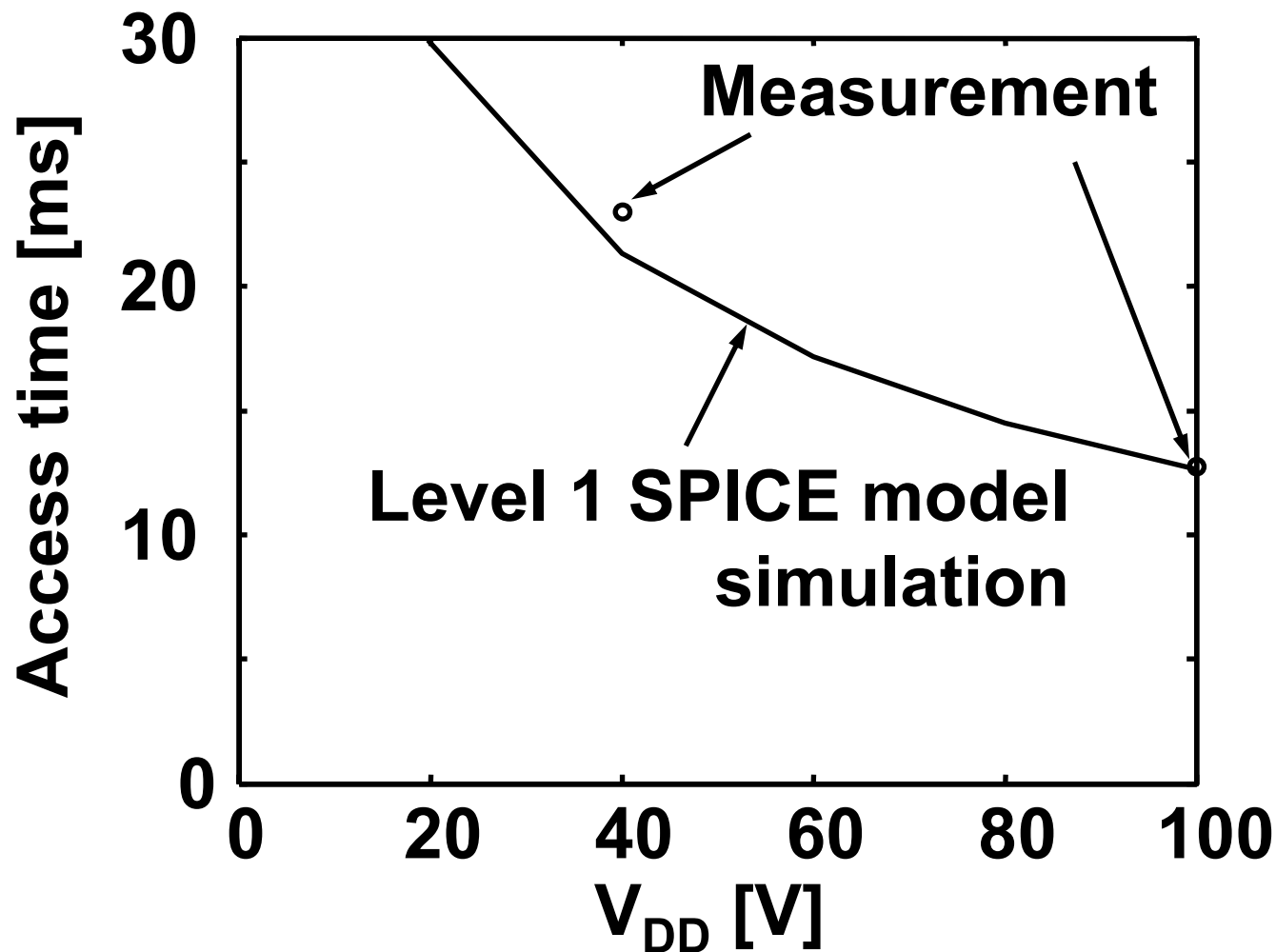
# Bit-out when pressed

- Pressed sencele pulls bit line up to  $V_{DD}$ .



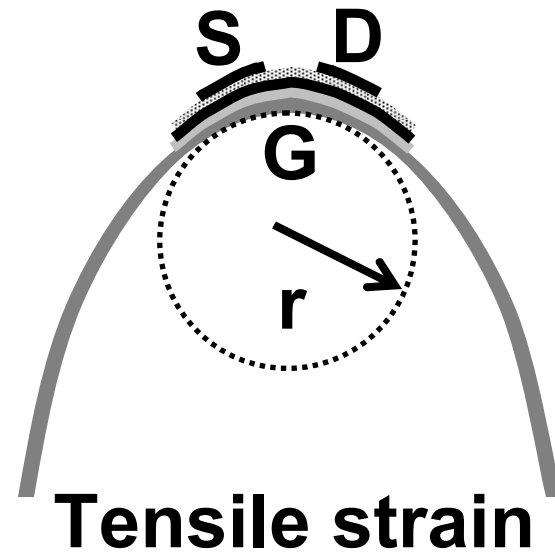
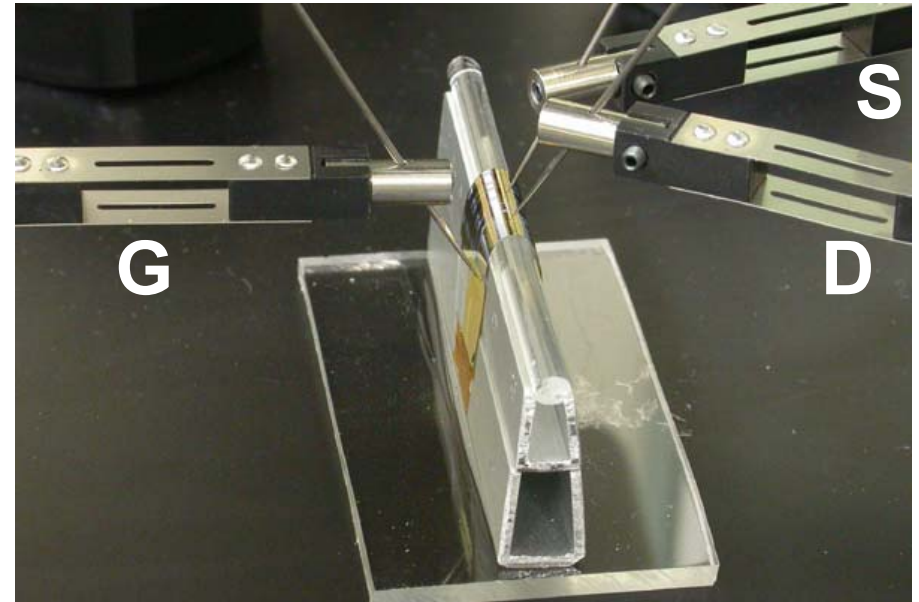
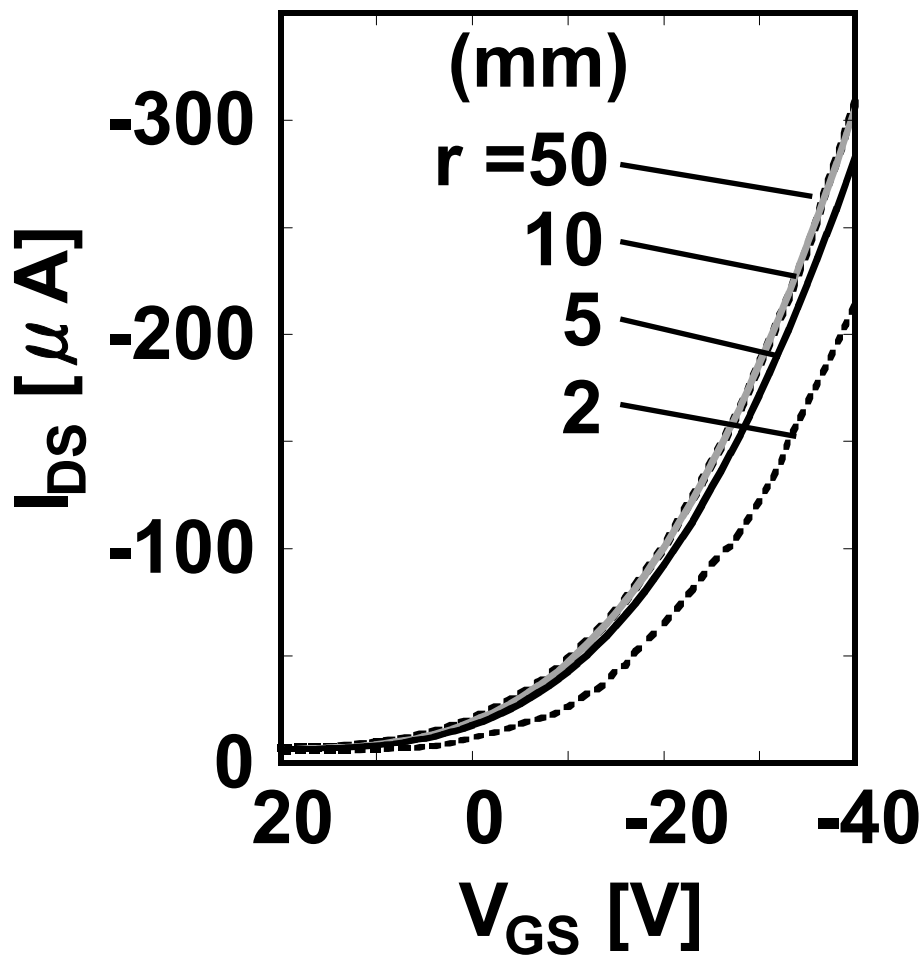
# Access time dependence on $V_{DD}$

- Access time reduces to half @100V  $V_{DD}$ .
- Simulation agrees with measurement.



# Bending test

$L=50 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $W=16\text{mm}$   
 $V_{\text{DS}} = -40\text{V}$



# Remaining issues

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- **Enhancing reliability and stability**
  - Current lifetime: days  $\longrightarrow$  months, years  
Encapsulation
  - Initial transistor yield  $> 99\%$  for  $t_{\text{insulator}} = 500 \text{ nm}$
  
- **Lowering operation voltage**
  - Currently 40V  $\longrightarrow$   $< 10\text{V}$   
Shorter L  
Thinner insulator  
High-k

# Summary

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- **An electronic artificial skin system**
  - A large-area pressure sensor matrix
  - Column selectors and row decoders
  - Laser via process for circuit implementation
- **Cut-and-paste customization**
- **Mechanical flexibility down to  $r=5$  mm**
- **23 ms delay for read-out**