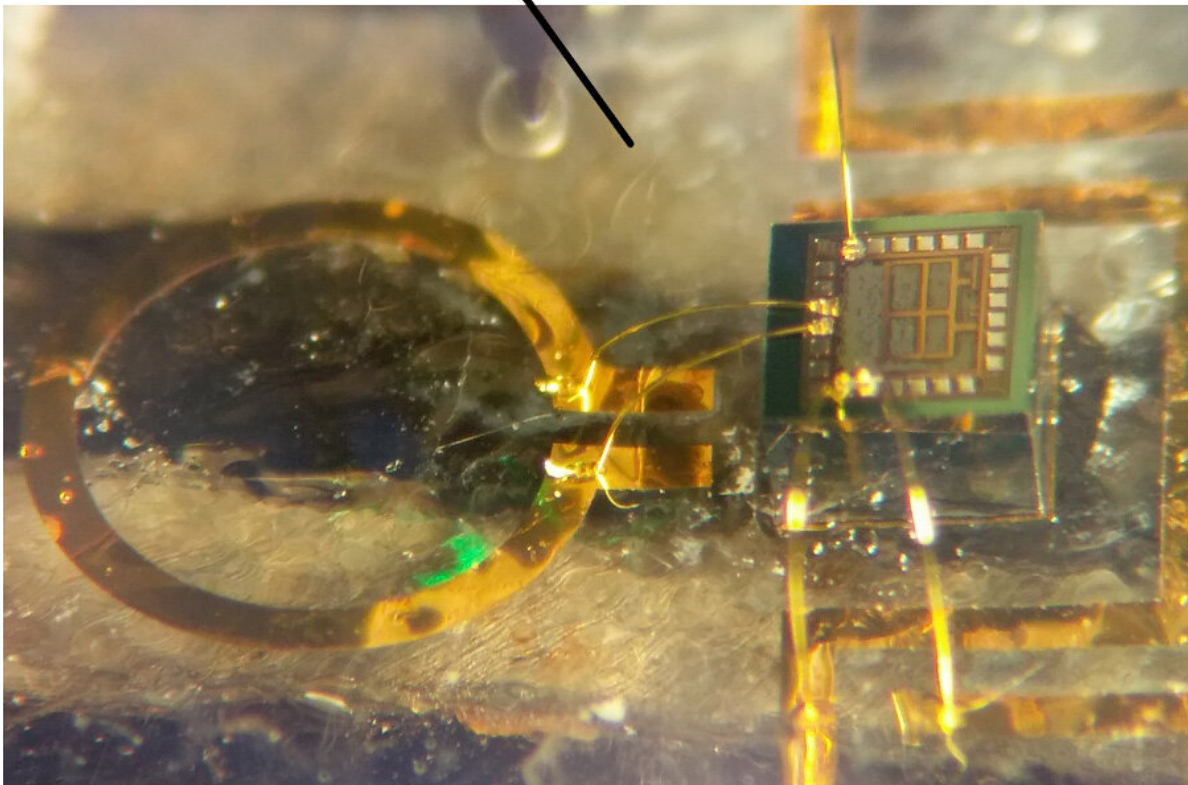


Implantable transmitter provides wireless option for biomedical devices

August 4 2020, by Chris Adam

Parylene C Substrate



A Purdue University team developed a fully implantable transmitter chip for wireless sensor nodes and biomedical devices. Credit: Hansraj Bhamra/Purdue University

Purdue University innovators are working on inventions to use micro-chip technology in implantable devices and other wearable products such as smart watches to improve biomedical devices, including those used to monitor people with glaucoma and heart disease.

The Purdue team developed a fully implantable radio-frequency transmitter chip for wireless sensor nodes and [biomedical devices](#). The research is published in the journal *IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems II*. The transmitter chip consumes lowest amount of energy per digital bit published to date.

The transmitter works in a similar fashion to [communication technology](#) in mobile phones and [smart watches](#), but the Purdue transmitter has an unprecedented level of miniaturization and low-energy consumption that it can be implanted into an eye to monitor pressure for a glaucoma patient or into another part of the body to measure data related to heart functions.

"A transmitter is an integral part of these kinds of devices," said Hansraj Bhamra, a research and development scientist who created the technology while he was a graduate student at Purdue. "It facilitates a [wireless communication](#) between the sensor node or biomedical device and a smart phone application. The user can simply operate the device through a smart phone application and receive the biophysiological data in real-time. The transmitter in this case enables a 24-hour intraocular pressure monitoring for glaucoma patients"

The Purdue transmitter chip works with sensor nodes in a process similar to the way sensors in the smart cars and other Internet of Things devices connect through various communication components to achieve tasks such as auto-driving.

"In addition to being low power, our transmitter operates on wireless

power to replace the conventional batteries," said Pedro Irazoqui, the Reilly Professor of Biomedical Engineering and professor of electrical and computer engineering at Purdue. "Batteries are undesirable since they increase the device size and weight and make it uncomfortable for patients. In addition, the batteries are built of toxic material and require frequent recharging or replacement surgeries."

More information: Hansraj Bhamra et al, An Ultra-Low Power 2.4 GHz Transmitter for Energy Harvested Wireless Sensor Nodes and Biomedical Devices, *IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems II: Express Briefs* (2020). [DOI: 10.1109/TCSII.2020.3005332](https://doi.org/10.1109/TCSII.2020.3005332)

Provided by Purdue University

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