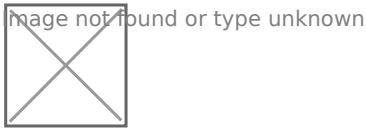


# Highly Conductive, Stretchable Polymer

Stanford researchers have developed a highly conductive, stretchable polymer that is durable enough for wearable electronics. To improve flexibility they doped poly(3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene) polystyrene sulfonate (PEDOT:PSS) with ionic liquid plasticizer. The plasticizer provides a fiber-like morphology, improves connectivity and conductivity via the doping anions. The transparent doped PEDOT:PSS is stretchable to twice its initial length, and maintains conductivity on the order of  $10^2$  to  $10^3$  S/cm. The water based dispersion can be directly printed onto substrates, making it an excellent electrode or interconnect for wearable electronic devices.



**Figure 1** Photographs illustrating the minimal change in LED brightness as the device is stretched under twisting and poked with a sharp object, respectively.

## Stage of Research

Researchers continue to test different ionic liquids and processing methods to optimize properties.

## Applications

- Stretchable conductor for:
  - Wearable electronics / biomedical device electrodes and interconnects
  - Strain or pressure sensors
  - Stretchable battery electrodes

## Advantages

- High conductivity - 3100 S/cm increases to > 4100 S/cm under strain due to chain alignment
- Excellent durability - conductivity maintained after 1000 cycles at 100% strain with fracture strain > 800%
- Low temperature sensitivity, making it an excellent interconnect
- Easy integration – directly printed and patterned onto substrates, compatible with organic semiconductor components
- Easy fabrication -commercially available, well characterized

## Publications

- Wang, Y., Zhu, C., Pfattner, R., Yan, H., Jin, L., Chen, S., . . . Bao, Z, "[A highly stretchable, transparent, and conductive polymer](#),"Science Advances, 3(3). doi:10.1126/sciadv.1602076

## Patents

- Published Application: [WO2017124020](#)
- Published Application: [20180327543](#)
- Issued: [11,499,007 \(USA\)](#)

## Innovators

- Yue Wang
- Zhenan Bao

## Licensing Contact

### Evan Elder

Senior Licensing Associate

[Email](#)