

Peter Walters

## **Smart materials and novel actuators: Creative applications in art and design**

Centre for Fine Print Research,  
University of the West of England

Centre for Fine Print Research,  
3D printing in the visual arts and design

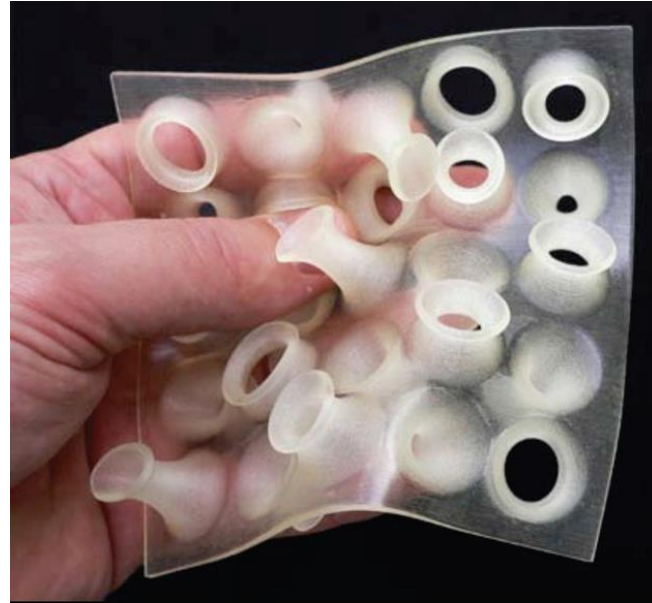


Trumpet Tiles and Trumpet Spheres (2009)  
Peter Walters. Form and Colour Studies –  
Z-Corp 3D Prints

## 3D Virtual to 3D Physical >> Digital Fabrication



Photopolymer model made using the EnvisionTEC Perfactory rapid prototyping system

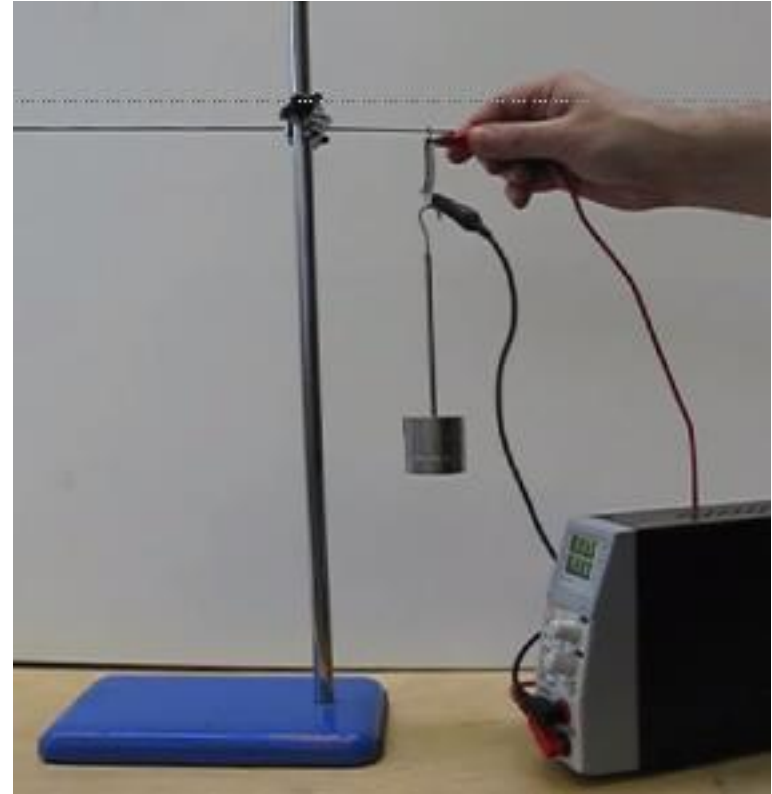


Photopolymer model made using the Objet Geometries PolyJet 3D printing system  
TangoPlus rubber-like resin

# 3D printing and smart materials UWE early career grant

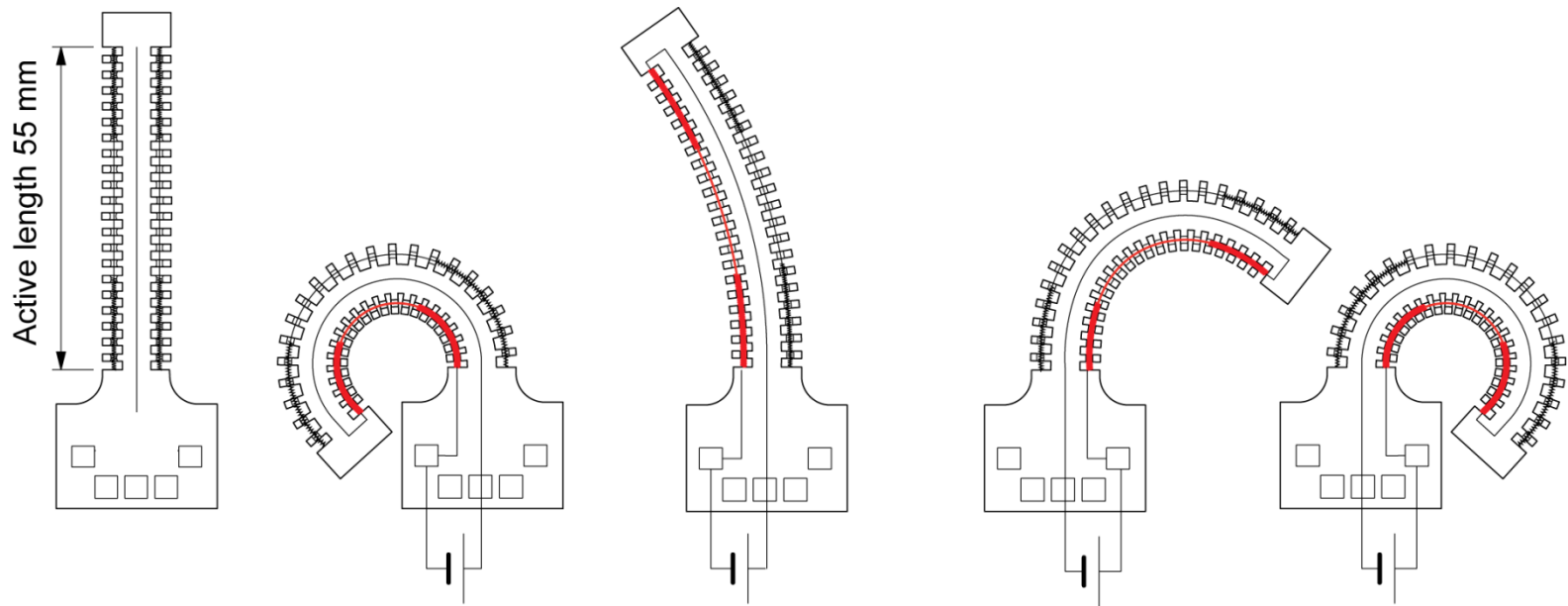


Peter Walters' and David McGoran



Ni Ti Shape memory alloy artificial muscle

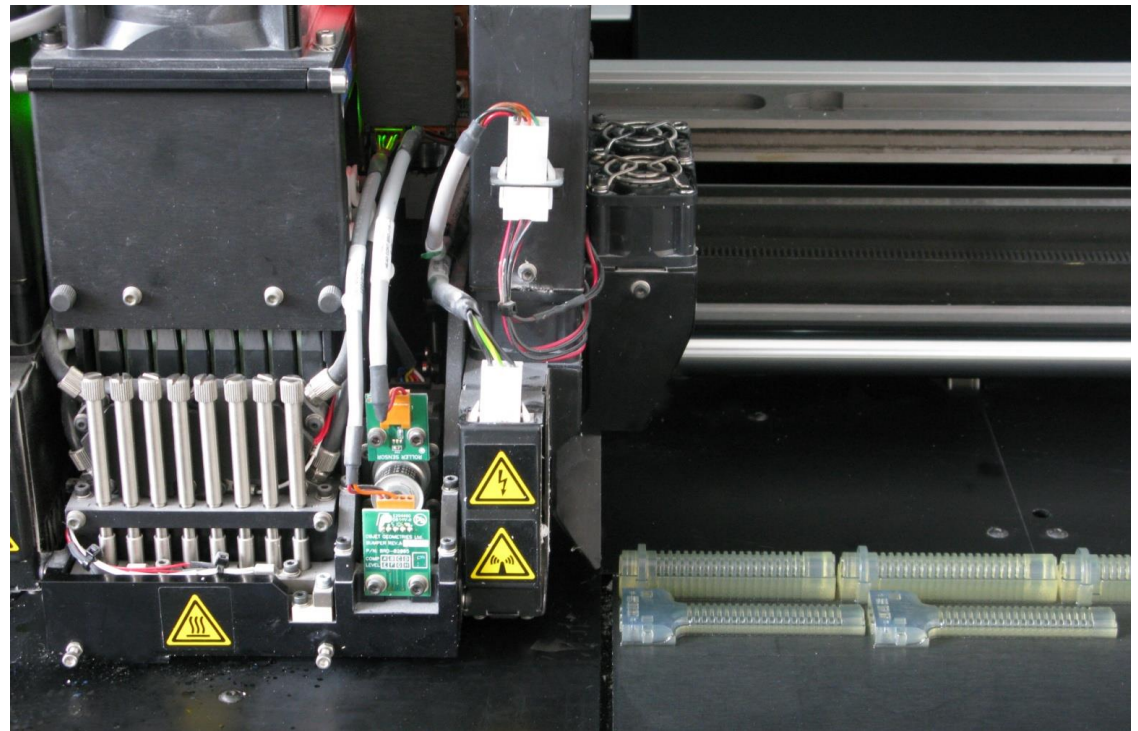
Helical structure contracts when heated by electric current



## 3D printed tentacle-like active structure

Toki Biometal Helix actuator contracts like a muscle when heated electrically





3D printing tentacle structures

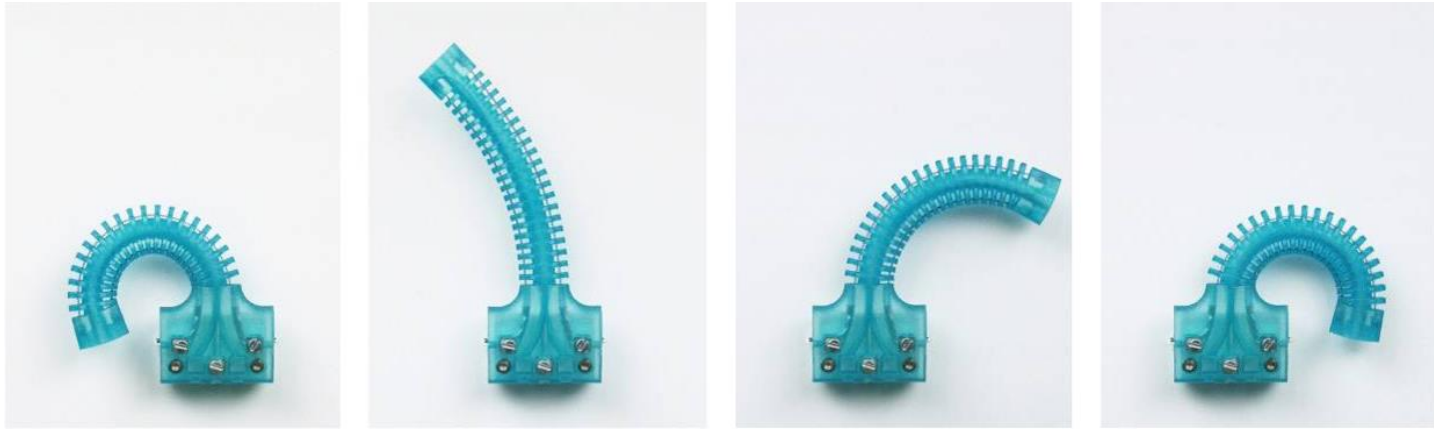
Objet Geometries EDEN 350 V

Tango Plus uv-cure elastomer

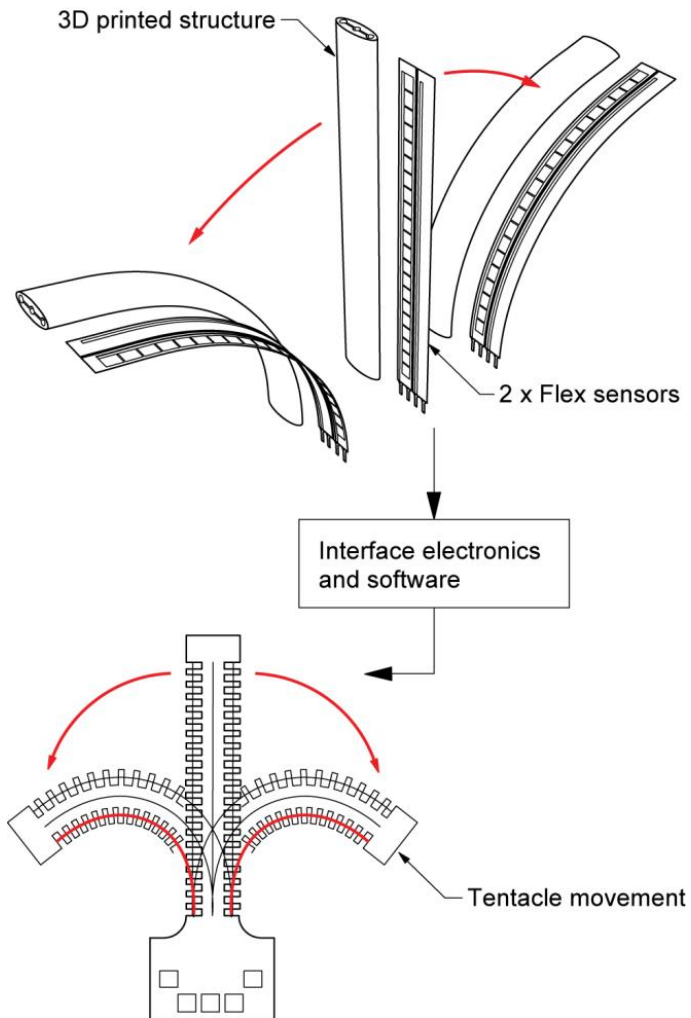


3D printed soft rubber-like structures



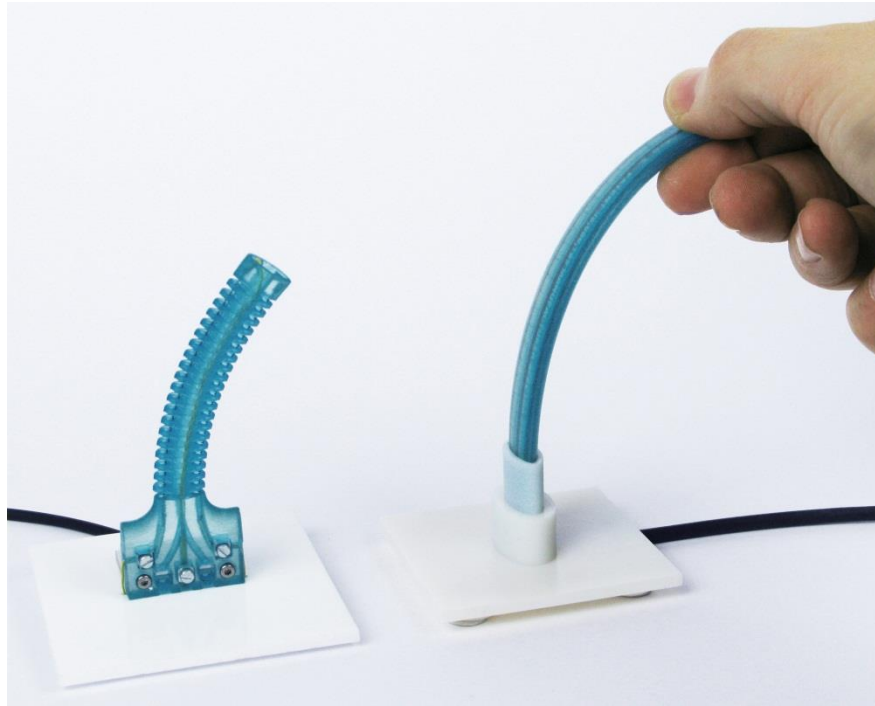


3D printed tentacle structure  
NiTi actuation – Biometal Helix



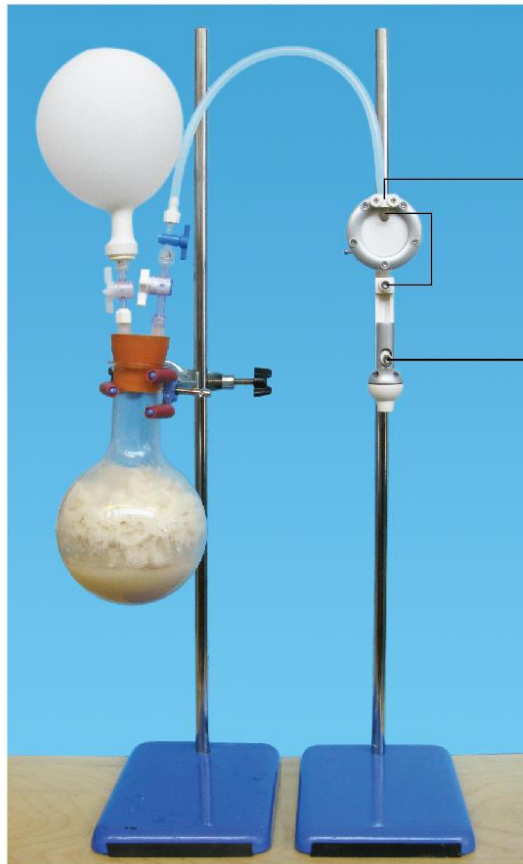
Tentacle “smart puppet” with flex sensor control

2 x resistive flex sensors, Arduino microcontroller,  
dual MOSFET driver, open loop control

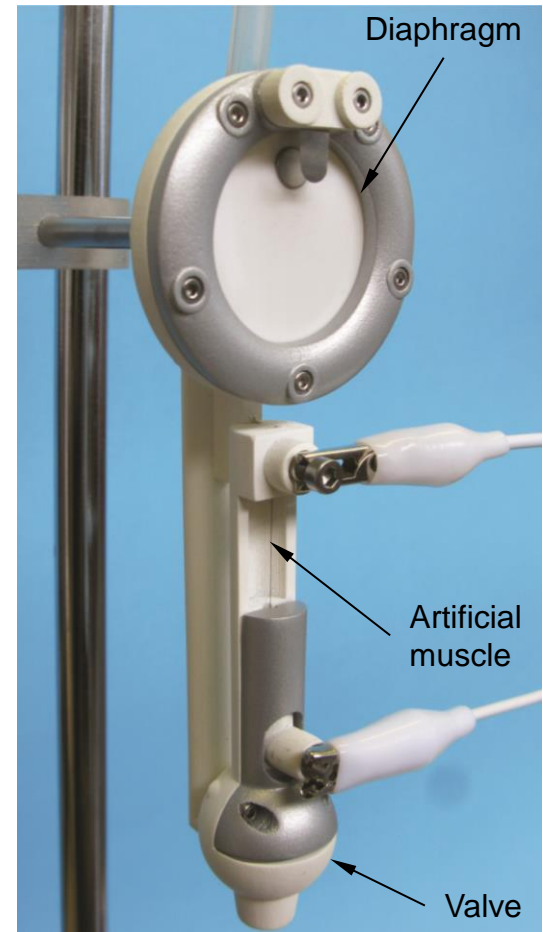
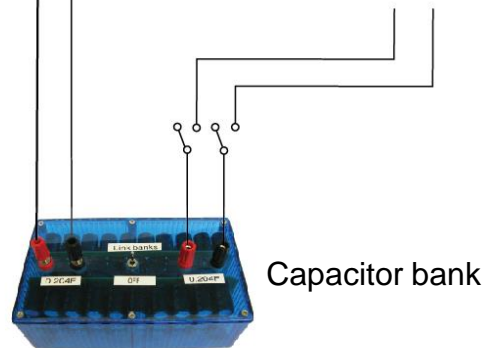
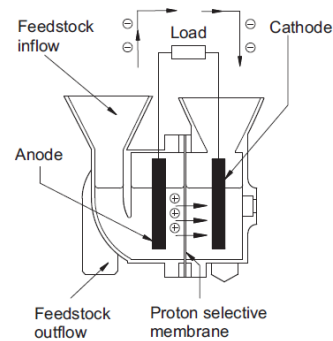


Tentacle “smart puppet” with flex sensor control

## Bioreactor



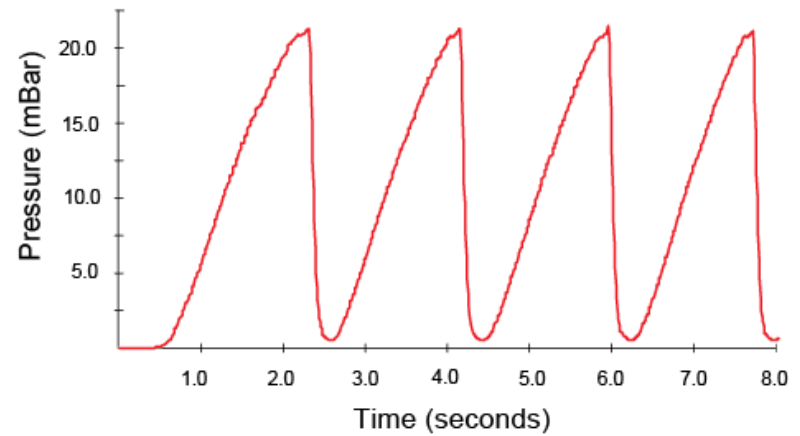
## EcoBot 48 x microbial fuel cells



## Artificial heartbeat

Biologically-driven actuation - yeast and microbial fuel cells

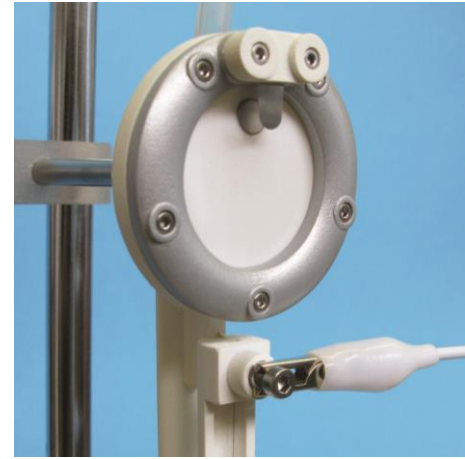
With Dr Ioannis Ieropoulos, Bristol Robotics Laboratory



“3D-printed cyborg muscle produces artificial heartbeat”

Sandrine Ceurstemont, **New Scientist TV**, 21 Feb 2013





Thank you!

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*Digital Fabrication of “Smart” Structures and Mechanisms: Creative Applications in Art and Design*

Walters, Peter and McGoran, David, IS&T Digital Fabrication, Minneapolis 2011

*Digital Fabrication of a Novel Bio-Actuator for Bio-Robotic Art and Design*

Walters, P., Ieropoulos, I., McGoran, D., IS&T Digital Fabrication, Minneapolis 2011

*3D Printing for Artists: Research and Creative Practice*

Walters, P. and Davies, K. (2010) Rapport #1, 2010