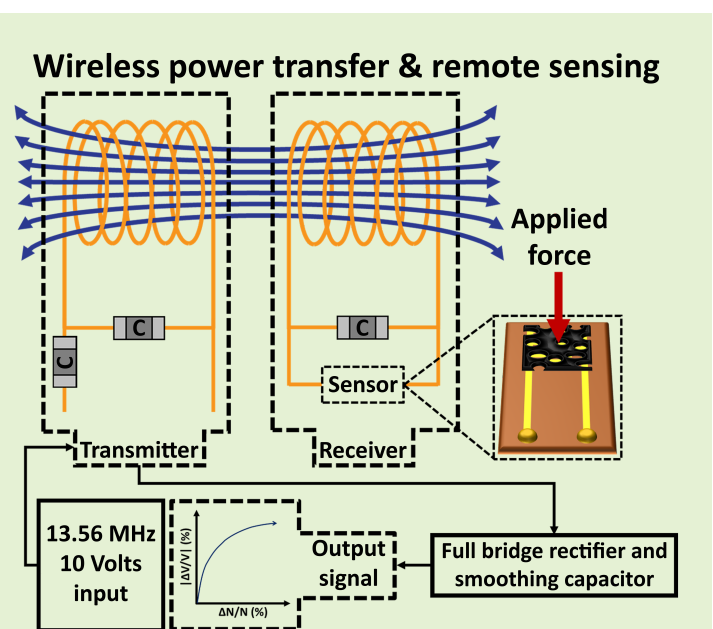


Integration of wireless power transfer technology with hierarchical multi-walled carbon nanotubes-Polydimethylsiloxane piezo-responsive pressure sensor for remote force measurement

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Abstract—Integrating sensory devices with wireless power transfer technology for remote sensing requires the implementation of complex electronic circuitry and communication protocols. To overcome this challenge and remotely monitor mechanical force, we directly integrated piezo-responsive porous multi-walled carbon nanotubes/polydimethylsiloxane nanocomposites with a near-field wireless power transfer system. The wireless system transfers power bidirectionally between the transmitter and the sensing receiver at the resonant frequency of 13.56 MHz. The detection principle is based on the mechanical force-induced impedance changes in the receiver circuit. The modulated impedance signal is detected wirelessly at the transmitter circuit via a full-bridge rectifier and smoothing capacitor. Furthermore, we demonstrate the wireless monitoring of finger bending and applied force using our flexible and disposable sensor without using any energy storage devices. The results suggest a response and recovery time of 400 ± 50 ms, strain sensitivity of 24.73, and pressure sensitivity of 0.98. Our approach adds a new path for disposable haptic-based sensory applications that do not require complex communication protocols in medical, robotics, and other fields.

Index Terms—CNTs, PDMS, Porous tactile sensor, Wireless power transfer, Remote sensing, Piezo-impedance



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I. INTRODUCTION

DUE to their remarkable electrical, mechanical, and chemical properties, functional nanocomposites have applications spanning from textile and food industries through biosensing, energy harvesting, transportation, information technology, and healthcare, making them essential compo-

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nents of future technologies [1]. Since the initial reports of its piezoresistive behavior [2], multi-walled carbon nanotubes (MWCNTs)/polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) nanocomposites have mainly been investigated for flexible electronics and piezoresistive pressure sensing applications. While there have been significant improvements and achievements regarding piezoresistive MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposites that enhance their sensitivity, detection limit, and stability mainly via hierarchical structure and increased porosity [3]–[6], there are significant drawbacks in MWCNTs/PDMS sensor fabrication. An example of such drawbacks is the attachment of the sensor to electrodes. Most reports that investigate the piezoresistive effects of MWCNTs/PDMS insufficiently address this problem. Typically, researchers use silver epoxy or copper tapes as conductive adhesives, which are not viable options, particularly for commercial applications, due to high contact resistance and low mechanical integrity.

Recently, the use of silane bonding of PDMS with various materials and surfaces has been investigated. The reports show good mechanical properties, particularly for flexible devices and applications [7]–[10]. In addition, reports on high-frequency applications of MWCNTs/PDMS, particularly piezo-impedance sensing [11], [12], suggest that at high frequencies (>100 KHz), MWCNTs/PDMS exhibit a robust capacitive response, while at low frequencies (<100 KHz), the resistive response is dominant. Moreover, porous MWCNTs/PDMS, fabricated via sacrificial template, have been shown to have high capacitive sensitivity at high frequencies. This behavior has been correlated with capacitance forming between carbon nanotubes (CNTs)-PDMS-CNTs structure and resistive-capacitive (RC) network forming at CNTs-CNTs junctions [12]. This multimodal behavior makes MWCNTs/PDMS an exciting material for high-frequency applications.

Resonant inductive coupling (magnetic resonance coupling), particularly at 13.56 MHz, for near-field power transmission as a high-frequency application, is one of the main routes to wireless power transmission (WPT) technologies [13], [14]. WPT and remote sensing (RS) are rapidly becoming essential technologies of modern electronics and sensory devices [15], [16]. Although wirelessly powered wearable electronics have been investigated extensively [17]–[19], their integration with RS technology requires complex circuitry [20]–[22].

The current trend in integrating WPT with wearable electronics is mainly focused on power transmission [23]. For example, there are multiple reports on using WPT technology to power up a component on the receiver via AC to DC conversion [18], [19]. Some of these works report the evidence of change in the receiver impedance (Z_R) [17]–[19] upon physical changes or chemical reactions having influenced a passive component of the receiver circuit [17], [18]. Due to coupling between the transmitter and receiver circuits, these changes affect multiple parameters, resulting in the detection of Z_R variation via the transmitter. Therefore, even though there are reports on the integration of WPT with complex and costly data communication protocols and devices [15], [16], [24]–[26], the presence of multiple coupling-induced parameters in WPT systems that are affected by Z_R suggests

the prospect of RS based on simply detecting changes in Z_R without the necessity for additional communication protocols and complex circuitry.

The use of piezo-responsive MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite as a remote wearable device has yet to be fully realized. Herein, the challenges outlined above are addressed by presenting a chemically bonded porous MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite sensor fabricated via the sacrificial template technique on screen-printed interdigitated (IDT) electrodes with reduced contact resistance. Wirelessly powering the nanocomposite sensor without additional rectification or power storage units enables the remote monitoring of the applied force on the piezo-responsive nanocomposite using its high-frequency characteristics and reflected impedance. The direct integration of high-frequency piezo-responsive MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite with near-field (13.56 MHz) WPT technology and a simple readout circuit (a full bridge rectifier and a filter) simplifies the measurement system and improves cost-effectiveness. We expect our technology to accelerate the development of disposable wirelessly powered remote pressure sensing devices, not requiring complicated circuitry and communication protocols.

II. EXPERIMENTAL

A. Materials

Multi-walled carbon nanotube (MWCNT) provided by Cnano Technology (FT9110; Santa Clara, CA, USA), polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) (Sylgard 184, Dow Corning), commercially available household white sugar, D-550 silver ink (DOTITE), 99% (3-Aminopropyl)triethoxysilane (APTES) (Sigma Aldrich) and 50 μm thick Kapton film (As One) were purchased and used as is. AWG 31 wire was used for the antenna fabrication.

B. Fabrication of transmitter, receiver, and remote sensing circuit

The transmitter and receiver antennas were designed and fabricated based on a previously published work [18]. In short, a five-turn copper wire coil (wire diameter: 0.238 mm and coil diameter: 35 mm) covered with heat-shrink tubing was attached to chip capacitors by tinning with a soldering iron. The transmitter resonance frequency was tuned to 13.56 MHz ± 200 KHz by attaching a 42 pF capacitor in parallel and a 42 pF capacitor in series, while the receiver was tuned to the same resonance frequency by attaching an 80 pF capacitor in parallel. The values for tuning capacitors were determined via a vector network analyzer (VNA) (Anritsu-MS46122B) so that both antennas would have near zero Imaginary impedance ($\text{Im}[Z]$) at the resonance frequency. For remote sensing (RS), the input of the transmitter coil was connected to a full bridge rectifier (FBR) assembled using 1N4448 diodes. The output of the FBR was connected to a 2 mF smoothing capacitor ($C_{\text{smoothing}}$) connected in parallel to a 100 Ω resistor (R_{out}), as shown in Figure S1.

C. Fabrication of CNTs/PDMS sensor

PDMS prepolymer was prepared by mixing 30 grams of base and 3 grams of curing agent, vigorously stirred for 20 minutes, covered to avoid contamination, and kept in the freezer (-12.5 °C) for degassing. 0.2 grams of MWCNTs were directly mixed with 20 grams of sugar using a pestle, and mortar [27]. The resulting mixture was wetted with 600 μL water and molded into a $5 \times 5 \times 0.2$ cm cuboid. After drying the sample in the oven at 70 °C for 6 hours, the MWCNTs-sugar cuboid was demolded and placed in a Petri dish filled with previously prepared PDMS prepolymer. The Petri dish was placed in a vacuum desiccator for 1 hour, then covered to avoid contamination, and placed in the freezer at -12.4 °C for an additional hour. This process resulted in PDMS infusion in MWCNTs-sugar pores due to the capillary effect caused by vacuum and shrinkage. The MWCNTs-sugar-PDMS cuboid was taken out, excess PDMS prepolymer on the surface was wiped off and then placed in the oven at 70 °C for 24 hours for the curing process. After curing, sandpaper was used to polish and smoothen the sample's surface. The sample was placed into a beaker filled with distilled water and heated in a conventional microwave oven for 5 minutes to dissolve the sugar. Microwave heating expedites sugar dissolution due to the expansion of pores as a result of thermal shock [28]. The dissolution of sugar in the water changes the color of the water to brown. The water was discarded after each cycle. This process was repeated five or more times until the water remained clear. The final product was then dried for 1 hour at 125 °C and cut into $1 \times 1 \times 0.2$ cm cuboids (Figure S2).

Sensors were fabricated by attaching MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite to screen-printed IDT silver electrodes on a Kapton film. Silane coupling [29], [30] using 1 vol% aqueous APTES was employed to reduce the effects of contact resistance and improve the mechanical integrity of attachment. Silane coupling was performed by placing the electrodes and the MWCNTs/PDMS in UV ozone cleaner for 30 minutes and then immersing the electrodes in 1 vol% aqueous APTES for 30 minutes at room temperature for surface functionalization. Lastly, MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite was placed on top of the electrode, clamped tightly, and placed in the oven at 70 °C for 1 hour (Figure S3) to obtain the sensing device.

D. Measurement

Initially, the transmitter and receiver were tuned to the resonance frequency by soldering each antenna to the SMA connector (Orient Microwave BL52-5636-00), connecting them to VNA (Anritsu-MS46122B), measuring the impedance at 13.56 MHz, and using the Smith chart impedance matching technique to determine the value of the ideal capacitors (as mentioned in section 2.2). After tuning, the scattering parameters (S-parameter) were determined via the same setup.

To characterize the hierarchical structure of MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite, scanning electron microscopy (JEOL, JCM-7000 NeoScope) was utilized. The contact resistance of two sensors, one with silver paste and another with APTES as their bonding agent, was determined using an impedance analyzer (HIOKI IM 3570). The piezo-impedance

performance of MWCNTs/PDMS was evaluated by collecting the impedance and phase angle from 5 MHz to 1 KHz using an impedance analyzer (HIOKI IM 3570) while measuring the force using IMADA digital force gauge (ZTS-5N) and displacement via Mitutoyo micrometer simultaneously (all connected to PC via Universal Serial Bus), as shown in Figure S4. For RS measurements, the transmitter input was connected to a function generator (200 MHz NF corporation multifunction generator WF1968), while the receiver was connected to the fabricated sensor in parallel. The voltage drop across R_{out} was measured via Arduino Uno (Arduino) connected to PC via Universal Serial Bus (Figure S1). The data were collected using MATLAB (MathWorks), Labview 2021 (National Instruments), and Force logger (Software provided by IMADA Corp), while the plots were graphed via Origin Pro 2022 (OriginLab Corporation).

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Hierarchical structure and contact resistance

The formation of a hierarchical structure has been shown to improve the piezo properties of MWCNTs/PDMS [3]–[6]. The result shown in Figure S5, obtained via scanning electron microscopy imaging, confirms the porous hierarchical structure of MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite. The pore size of the nanocomposite, created by the removal of sugar particles, has an average diameter of $235 \mu\text{m} \pm 134 \mu\text{m}$, which is in the range of sugar particle size. The formation of these hierarchical structures improves the flexibility, thereby increasing the sensitivity and stability of the MWCNTs/PDMS piezoresistive nanocomposite [3]–[6]. In addition, the contact resistance between the screen-printed IDT silver electrodes and the MWCNTs/PDMS decreased using APTES as a silane coupling agent compared to using the silver paste. The results shown in Figure S6 indicate that the contact resistance has significantly declined from 4.2 K Ω in the sample with Ag paste as the adhesive to 2.73 K Ω in the sample with APTES as the silane coupling agent. These results confirm the attachment of hierarchical MWCNTs/PDMS structure to screen-printed IDT silver electrode with reduced contact resistance [31].

B. Piezo response characterization of sensor

Since the piezo characteristics of the porous hierarchical MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite sensor are crucial to the purpose of this study, we evaluated the nanocomposite's flexibility, piezo-response, and sensitivity for wearable applications. The sensor retains its elasticity in the target pressure range (up to 5 N), as shown in Figure 1a. The exponential tendency with a growth constant of $k = 0.02$ and time constant $\tau = 49.22$ indicates that the increased compression increases the Young's modulus of the sample. This is understood because the initial applied force compresses the pores, resulting in a rapid change in strain and filling the voids in the porous structure of the MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite. As a result, the deformation rate of the MWCNTs/PDMS sensor decreases with the compression force. The hysteresis of 5.8 % observed in Figure 1a inset is due to the elastomeric nature of the matrix material (PDMS), often seen in PDMS-based pressure

sensors [32], [33]. To evaluate the piezo-impedance response of the device, we plot the Nyquist and Bode phase plots of the sensor, as shown in Figures 1b and 1c, respectively. Figure 1b indicates the decrease in both the real and imaginary axes due to applied force [12]. When force is exerted on the MWCNTs/PDMS sensor while measuring its impedance at high frequencies (>100 KHz), the capacitance value increases while the resistance value decreases; this is further evident in Figure 1c. Based on these data, we can conclude that the impedance response of the device with respect to applied force varies at high and low frequencies with the gauge factor of 0.68 at 5 MHz determined using equation 1.

$$GF = \frac{\Delta Z/Z_0}{\Delta L/L_0} = \frac{\Delta Z/Z_0}{\epsilon} \quad (1)$$

In contrast, the shift in the phase angle is observed only at high frequencies with the slope of 1.8 at 5 MHz. Furthermore, Figures 1b and 1c reveal that the phase angle above 1.5 N shifts towards the positive region (Inductive), suggesting that due to applied force, the device begins to behave as a conductor, resulting in a positive phase angle. Finally, and importantly, the apparent shift in the phase angle at high frequencies due to the applied force reveals the possible application of MWCNTs/PDMS sensors for high-frequency applications. WPT technology based on inductive coupling is in the MHz range, which makes it suitable for MWCNTs/PDMS piezo-responsive applications.

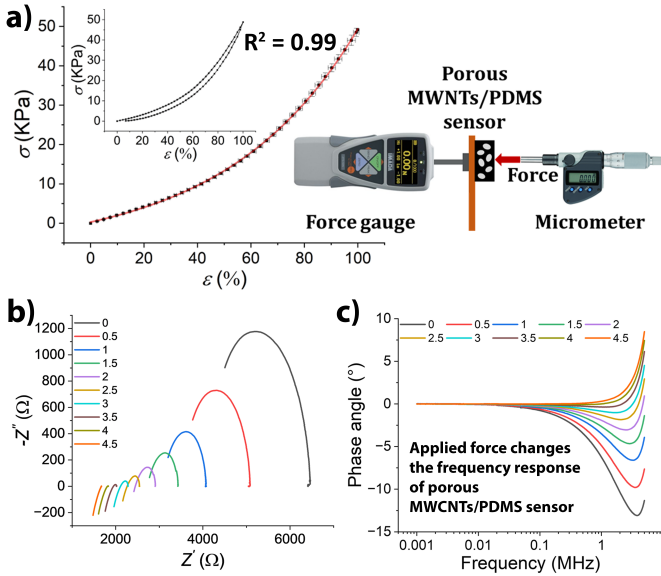


Fig. 1. a) Data (black dots) and fitted curve (red line) correspond to the stress vs. strain and schematic of measurements setup (The inset corresponds to the cyclic measurement). The error bars represent the standard deviation of 3 consecutive measurements from the same sample. b) Nyquist and c) Bode phase plots, obtained from porous MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite under an applied force of 0 N – 4.5 N with intervals of 0.5 N.

C. Characterization of WPT efficiency and influence of coupling on remote sensing

An important parameter in the WPT system is the wireless power transfer efficiency (η) that varies with the radiation

distance (air gap between transmitter and receiver). In a two-port network, η , shown in equation 2, was determined by varying the distance between transmitter and receiver antennas tuned at the resonance frequency (13.56 MHz), where P_{in} and P_{out} are transmitter power and receiver power, respectively. Equations 3 and 4 relate η to the scattering parameter (S_{21}) that signifies the power that leaves port 1 (Transmitter) and enters port 2 (Receiver).

$$\eta = \frac{P_{out}}{P_{in}} \quad (2)$$

$$S_{21} = 10 \log \frac{P_{out}}{P_{in}} \quad (3)$$

$$\eta = 10^{\frac{S_{21}}{10}} \quad (4)$$

η is in inverse correlation with radiation distance [17], [18]. The correlation between η and the radiation distance in simple coil loop antennas used in this work was determined by the Boltzmann function, shown in equation 5.

$$\eta = \frac{Initial\ value - Final\ value}{1 + e^{\frac{Distance - Center}{Slope}}} + Final\ value \quad (5)$$

The results shown in Figure 2a indicate the $\eta = 5.88\%$ at 0.5 cm and $\eta = 0.18\%$ at 4 cm radiation distance with the slope of 0.62, which signifies the inverse correlation between η and the radiation distance. This tendency is reported in previous works and is due to the change in coupling coefficient (k) and mutual inductance, determined by equation 6, and $L_m = k\sqrt{L_T L_R}$, respectively, where d is the radiation distance, r_1 and r_2 are the radii of transmitter and receiver antennas (17.5 mm), L_T and L_R are transmitter (6.56 μ H) and receiver (1.72 μ H) inductance, respectively [18].

$$k = \frac{1}{\left[1 + 2^{\frac{2}{3}} \left(\frac{d}{\sqrt{r_1 r_2}}\right)^2\right]^{\frac{2}{3}}} \quad (6)$$

To confirm the initial hypothesis regarding the possibility of remotely monitoring the change in resistance of porous MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite, the S_{11} parameter was recorded at a 1 cm gap between the transmitter and receiver. This distance was selected to avoid over coupling due to proximity but also low WPT efficiency at higher radiation distances. S_{11} has a linear correlation with applied pressure [26] with a slope value of 0.3, as shown in Figure 2c. In addition, η decreases exponentially (Eq. 7) with a decay constant of $k = -0.28$ and time constant of $\tau = -3.57$ as the applied pressure increases (Figure 2d), indicating that the change in Z_R influences the WPT efficiency and the S-parameters. The observed trends indicate a direct and measurable influence of the changes in receiver impedance on the electrical behavior of the transmitter as a result of applied force on the piezo-responsive sensor.

$$\eta = Offset + Amplitude \times e^{\frac{-Force}{Time\ constant}} \quad (7)$$

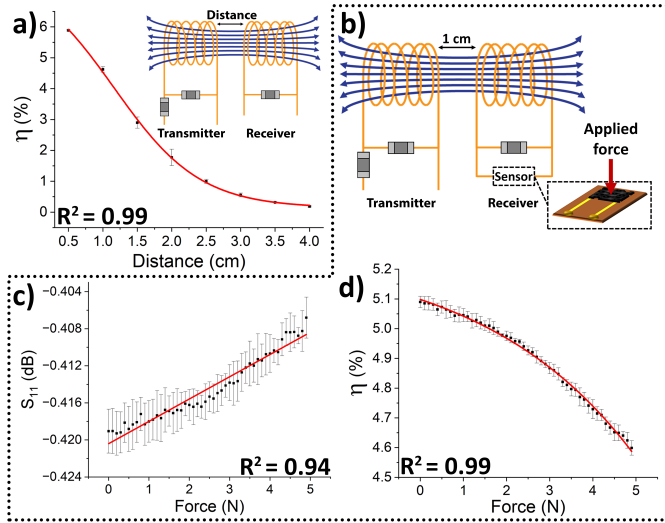


Fig. 2. The data (black dots) and fitted curve (red line) correspond to a) power transfer efficiency vs. radiation distance between transmitter and receiver antennas (inset shows the schematic of the measurement). b) schematic of WPT characterization in correlation with applied force on the porous piezoresistive MWCNTs/PDMS sensor via VNA and the corresponding c) S_{11} parameter and d) power transfer efficiency. The error bars represent the standard deviation of 3 consecutive measurements from the same sample.

D. Performance of WPT remote sensing system

The circuit shown in Figure S1 was constructed to measure the changes in receiver impedance via the transmitter. The RS capability of the sensor at a radiation distance of 1 cm was recorded in real-time using Arduino Uno. Based on the results shown in Figure 3a, during the RS measurements, the output voltage varies because of deformation. The change in output voltage in response to deformation (ε) is fitted using the Boltzmann function as shown in equation 8, indicating that the voltage changes rapidly (Slope = 24.73) as it gets closer to the center ($\varepsilon = 66.84\%$), and begins to slow down while reaching the final value.

$$\left| \frac{\Delta V}{V} \right| = \frac{\text{Initial value} - \text{Final value}}{1 + e^{\frac{\varepsilon - \text{Center}}{\text{Slope}}}} + \text{Final value} \quad (8)$$

This data shows that the change in output voltage at low and high deformation states is small, while it is rapid in the mid-range with the center at $\varepsilon = 66.84\%$. As shown in Figure 3b, the change in output voltage in response to applied force was fitted using the asymptote fitting function shown in equation 9, indicating a rapid change in the initial stages and slowing down near saturation (Rate = 0.98). These data suggest that the fabricated sensor has potential as a midrange strain gauge and low-pressure range piezoresistive pressure sensor for accurately monitoring different states and conditions of a system remotely.

$$\left| \frac{\Delta V}{V} \right| = \text{Asymptote} - \text{Response range} \times \text{Rate}^{\frac{\Delta N}{N}} \quad (9)$$

To confirm the functionality and applicability of the proposed system, the sensor was attached to a nitrile glove on the palmar side of the index finger at the proximal interphalangeal (PIP) joint using a double-sided tape and connected to the

setup shown in Figure S1. The real-time recording of the sensor during repeated bending to 45° (0.05 N) or 90° (0.1 N) and flexing of the hand (0 N) shows the doubling of the output voltage drop from 45 mV to 90 mV with the response and recovery time of 400 ± 50 ms in both cases (Figures 3c and 3d). We note that the modest change in the shape of the response in Figures 3c and 3d is due to the variation in the bending speed of the finger. Furthermore, we tested the functionality of the sensor by applying pressure via fingertip at a 1 cm radiation distance and observed an average voltage drop of 50 mV with a response and recovery time of 400 ± 50 ms (Figure S7). Lastly, the standard weights of 0.5 N, 1 N, and 2 N were applied to the sensor at radiation distances of 1 cm – 4 cm with intervals of 1 cm (Figure S8), which showed the decline in the output voltage, response and recovery time as radiation distance increases. These results demonstrate the high sensitivity, functionality, and applicability of the proposed design in combination with WPT and RS technologies for real-life scenarios.

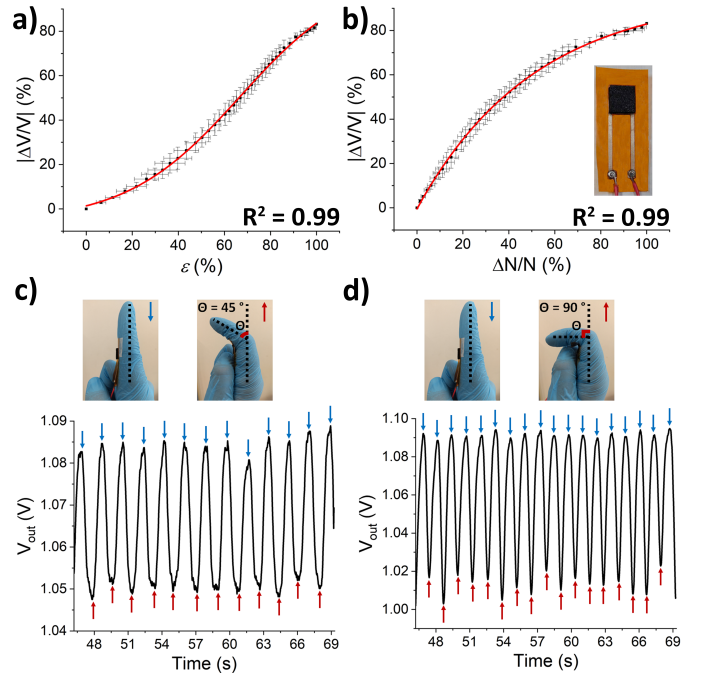


Fig. 3. Output voltage variation of the proposed system with respect to a) sensor deformation (strain) and b) change in applied force (Inset is the closeup image of the sensor). The error bars represent the standard deviation of 3 consecutive measurements from the same sample. The output voltage of the proposed system for c) a 45° bending and d) a 90° bending.

E. Discussion

From these observations, we infer that during the initial state (no force or deformation), the sensor impedance is high, which then changes with applied force due to the increase in conductive junctions and proximity of MWCNTs in the MWCNTs-PDMS-MWCNTs network. Due to the coupling, these changes affect multiple parameters, resulting in the feasible detection of changes in the receiver through the transmitter.

The value for Z_R is determined using equation 10 where Z_L is inductive, Z_C is capacitive, and Z_S is the sensor impedance value (Figure S9) [17]–[19].

$$Z_R = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{Z_L} + \frac{1}{Z_C} + \frac{1}{Z_S}} \quad (10)$$

Any changes in Z_L , Z_C , or Z_S affect Z_R . During inductive coupling, the changes in Z_R influence the transmitter by altering the reflected impedance (Z'_R). Z'_R is a physical quantity arising from the phenomenon that is directly correlated to the mutual inductance (L_m) between transmitter and receiver. In the WPT system, the input voltage (V_{in}) results in current flow (I_1) in a wire loop of the transmitter, and a magnetic field is generated based on Ampère's Law, which then induces an electromotive force (EMF) in the receiver due to Faraday's Law ($V_{Lm2} = j\omega L_m I_1$). The V_{Lm2} then generates a current (I_2) which induces EMF in the transmitter ($V_{Lm1} = j\omega L_m I_2$). The V_{Lm1} can be perceived as a voltage drop in the transmitter, and Z'_R can be determined based on (Eq. 11).

$$Z'_R = \frac{V_{Lm1}}{I_1} = \frac{j\omega L_m I_2}{I_1} = \frac{(\omega L_m)^2}{Z_R} \quad (11)$$

Due to the piezo-response of the MWCNTs/PDMS sensor, the reflected impedance and hence the resonant inductive coupling are affected. This is because the sensor impedance is initially high, resulting in a higher Z_R , a lower I_2 , and the resulting Z'_R . Therefore, the I_1 increases, resulting in the rise in V_{Lm2} and I_2 . This leads to a higher voltage drop across the transmitter because V_{Lm1} is linearly correlated to I_2 . As the applied force on the sensor increases, the sensor impedance decreases, resulting in lower Z_R , higher I_2 , and subsequent Z'_R . Z'_R increases, the I_1 decrease; thus, V_{Lm2} and I_2 drop, which result in lower V_{Lm1} . This can be validated via resonance inductive coupling efficiency (η). At the initial state, when the sensor impedance is high, the η is high, suggesting higher V_{Lm2} and I_2 . Applying pressure on the MWCNTs/PDMS then decreases Z_R , which weakens the resonance inductive coupling efficiency (low η) due to the decrease in V_{Lm2} and I_2 .

Moreover, the variation in voltage drop across R_{out} (Figures 3c and 3d) and the rise in the S_{11} parameter (Figure 2c) due to applied force is in line with this analogy. These results confirm the possibility of using the fundamental properties of MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite and resonance inductive coupling for direct and high-frequency integration of WPT and MWCNTs/PDMS piezo-responsive sensors to monitor the changes in the receiver remotely. Our WPT nanocomposite sensing platform opens up the possibility of using near-field WPT in low-cost applications that do not require complex communication protocols, constant power supply, and continuous measurement, which are easily disposable. Such devices could be used to monitor vital organs' conditions remotely without using energy storage devices that often contain poisonous materials. The application of such a system is not limited to medicine and could be beneficial to the industry (for example, remotely monitoring the state of a device without wasting energy) or machine learning in combination with robotics [34].

IV. CONCLUSION

In this work, we demonstrated the direct integration of piezo-responsive MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite with WPT for RS application using resonant inductive coupling, a full-bridge rectifier, and a smoothing capacitor. Furthermore, we confirmed the stability of piezo-responsive porous MWCNTs/PDMS nanocomposite chemically bonded to the silver electrode using a silane coupling agent with 5.8 % mechanical hysteresis. In addition, we demonstrated the proposed setup's performance with a strain sensitivity of 24.73 and a pressure sensitivity of 0.98. We also mention that while in this first demonstration, the correlation between the efficiency of WPT and the distance between transmitter and receiver and between the efficiency and the magnitude of applied force appears to be limited, a more efficient antenna design is expected to improve such properties. Moreover, the RS performance was assessed by applying force directly to the sensor with a fingertip and attaching the sensor to the PIP joint of a finger while measuring the applied force and bending angle in real-time with high accuracy and fast response. Finally, we showed the correlation of radiation distance with sensor response by applying constant force at various radiation distances. This approach may open a path for disposable medical and other haptic-based applications that do not require complex communication protocols. By miniaturizing the receiver coil and utilizing the proposed setup in the future, we may fabricate a disposable device that can monitor the functions of vital organs on demand and remotely while eliminating the use of energy storage devices.

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