



Centre for Advanced Photonics and Electronics "Technology from Science"

#### COMSOL CONFERENCE 2014 CAMBRIDGE

# 3D Multiphysics Model of Thermal Flow Sensors

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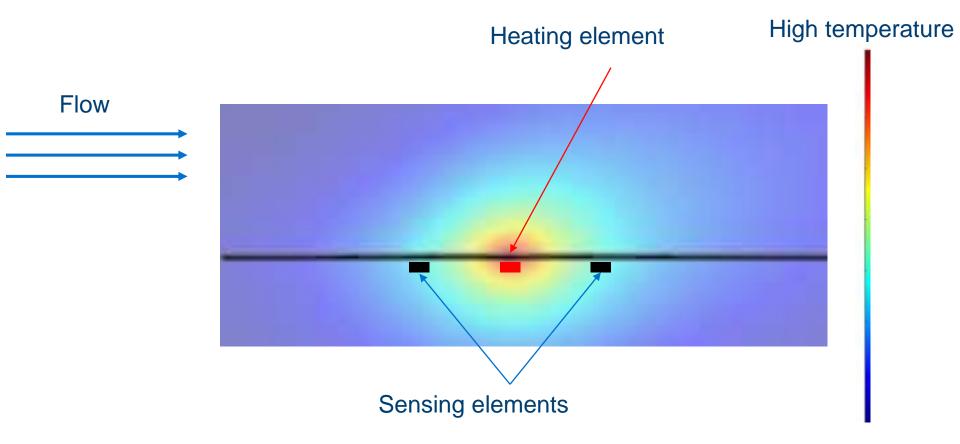
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# Outline

- Thermal Flow Sensors Working Principle
- Modules interaction in a Multiphyisical model
- Validation Device Structure
- Application: Wall Shear Stress Sensing
- Model Validation
- Conclusions and Future Work



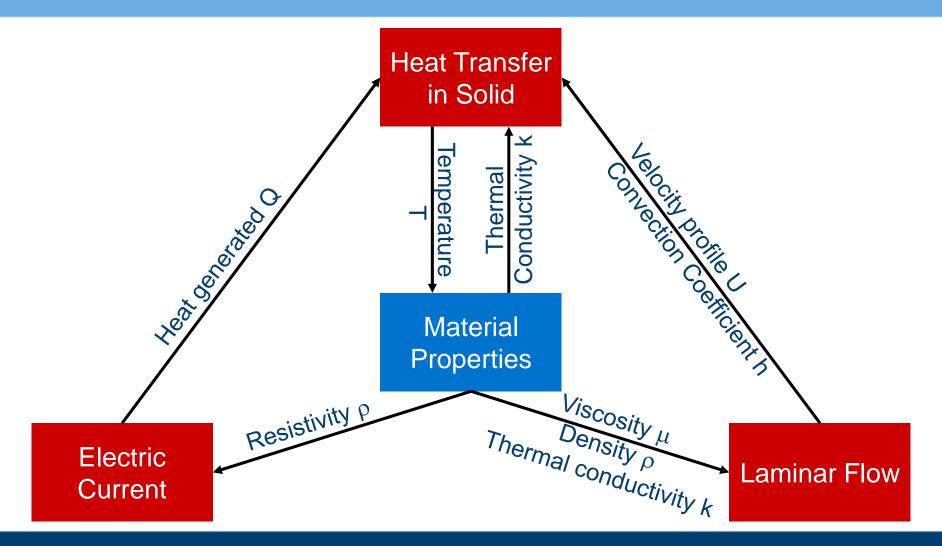
# **Thermal Flow Sensors Working Principle**



Low temperature

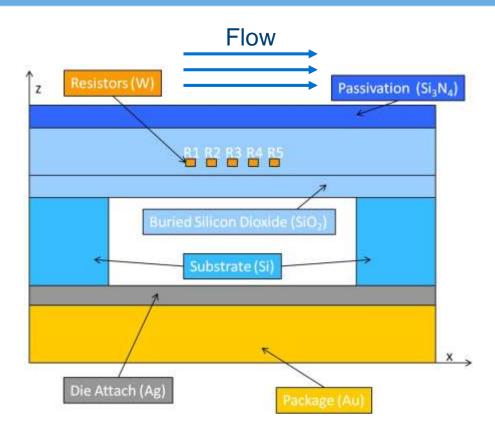


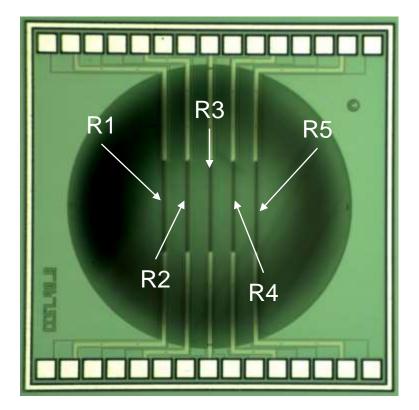
# **Modules Interaction in the Multiphysics Model**





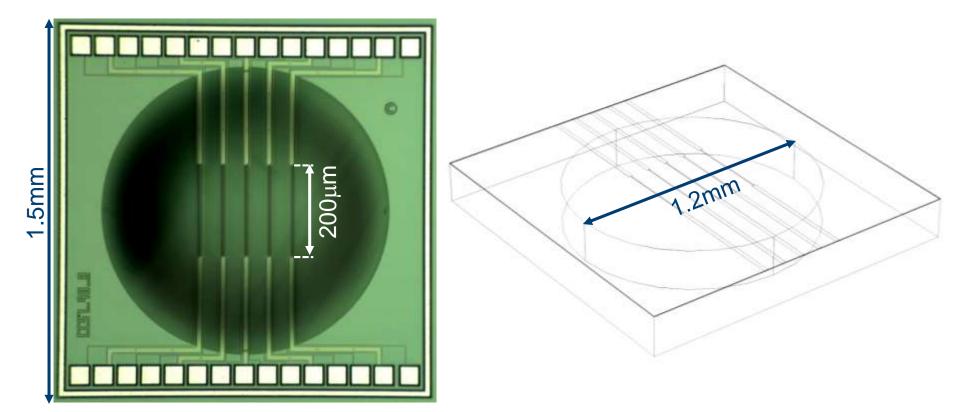
# **Validation Device Structure**





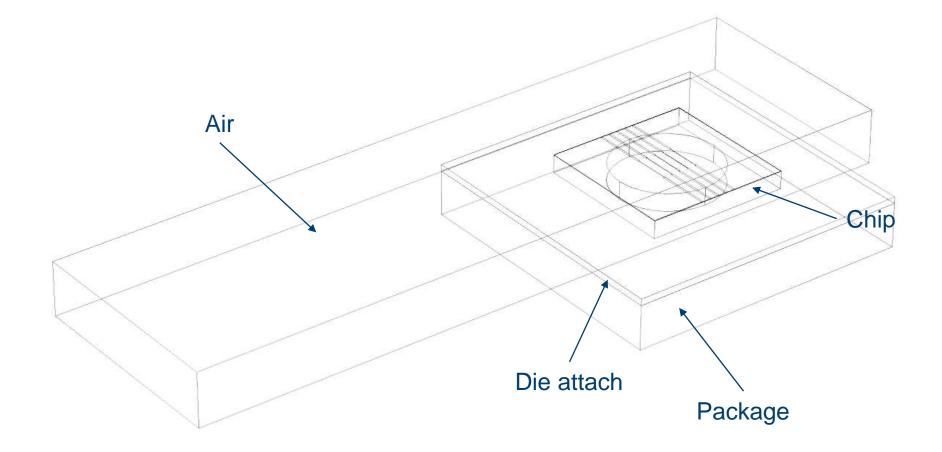


## Validation Device Simplified Geometry



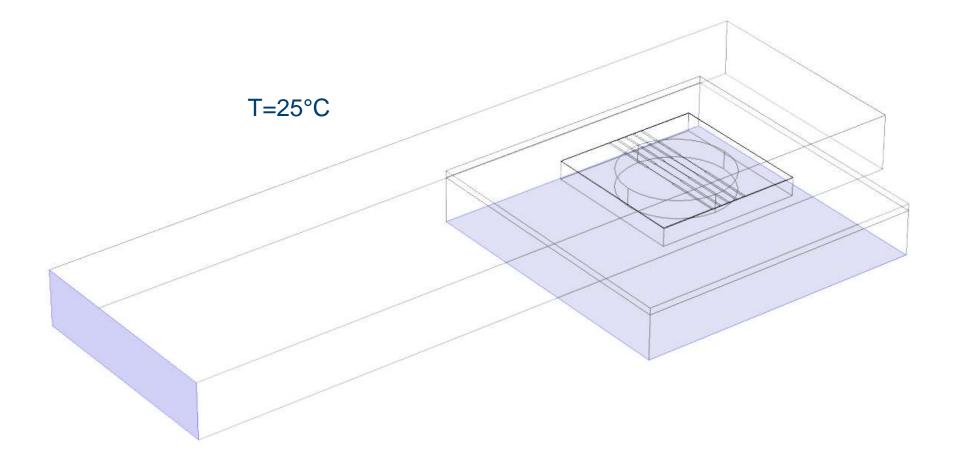


# **Validation Device Full Structure**



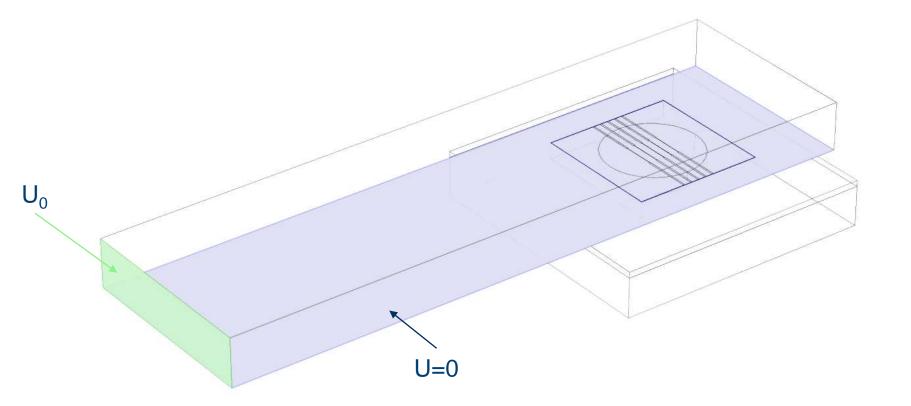


# Validation Device Thermal Boundary Conditions



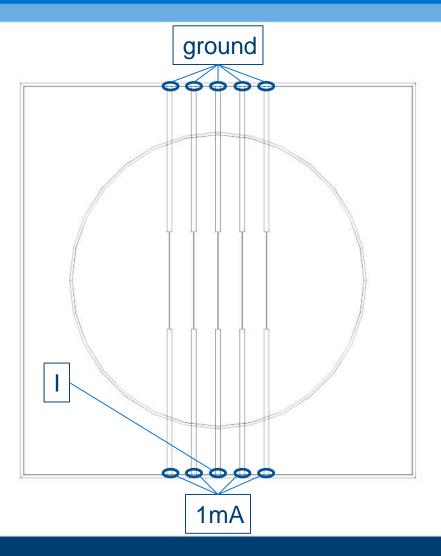


# Validation Device Flow Boundary Conditions



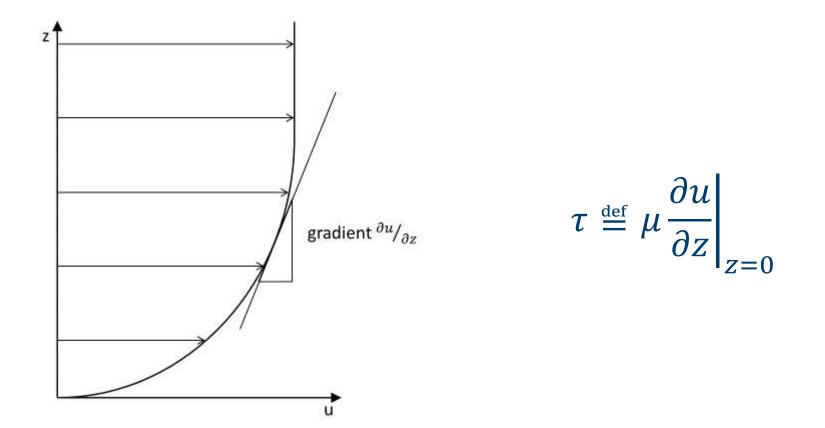


# Validation Device Electric Boundary Conditions





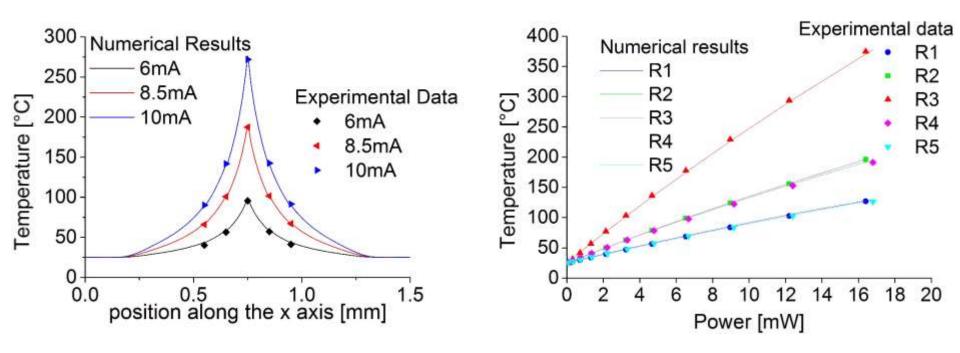
### Wall shear stress



Application in: automotive, oil and gas transoceanic pipes, health, etc...

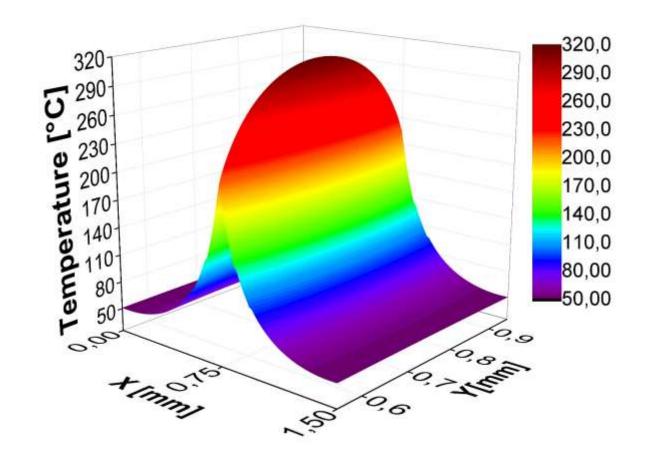


# **Model Validation: Still Air**



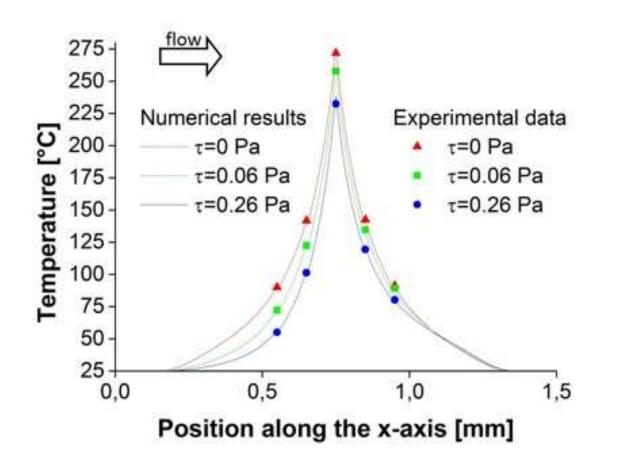


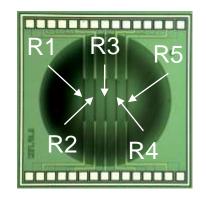
# **Model Validation: Temperature Profile**





# **Model Validation: Moving Flow**



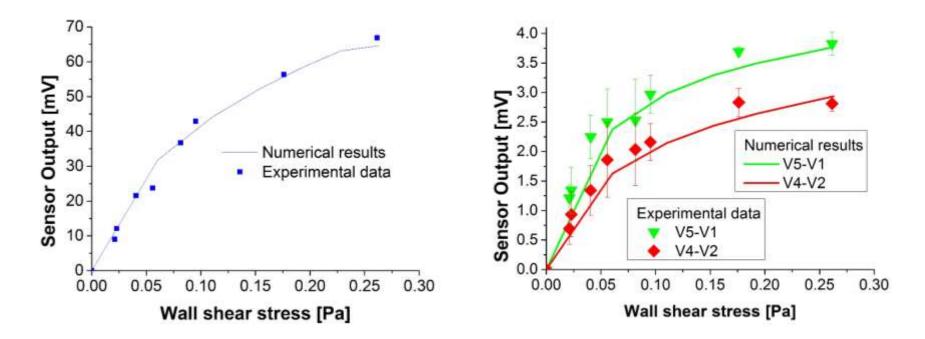




### **Model Validation : Output Voltage**

#### Anemometric configuration

Calorimetric configuration





# **Conclusions and Future Works**

- A 3-D multiphysics model has been developed for the analysis of thermal flow sensors.
- The model has been applied to a specific SOI CMOS wall shear stress sensor.
- The numerical results show excellent matching with experimental data in both stagnant air and moving flow.
- This model will allow an optimization of the device geometry in order to meet specific application requirements.



# Acknowledgements







# This work was partly supported through the EU FP7 project SOI-HITS (Smart Silicon-on-Insulator Sensing System Operating at High Temperature)



Thank you for the attention!



# **Model Equations**

• Heat Transfer in Solid

$$\rho C_p \hat{u} \cdot \nabla T = \nabla (k \nabla T) + Q$$

• Electric Current

$$Q = \rho \cdot \boldsymbol{J}^2$$

• Laminar Flow

$$\nabla \cdot (\rho \boldsymbol{u}) = 0$$
  
$$\rho(\boldsymbol{u} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{u} = \nabla \cdot [-p\boldsymbol{I} + \mu(\nabla \boldsymbol{u} + (\nabla \boldsymbol{u})^T)]$$

