

Prototyping IoT modules and assembling by additive manufacturing

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16th International Conference and Exhibition on
DEVICE PACKAGING



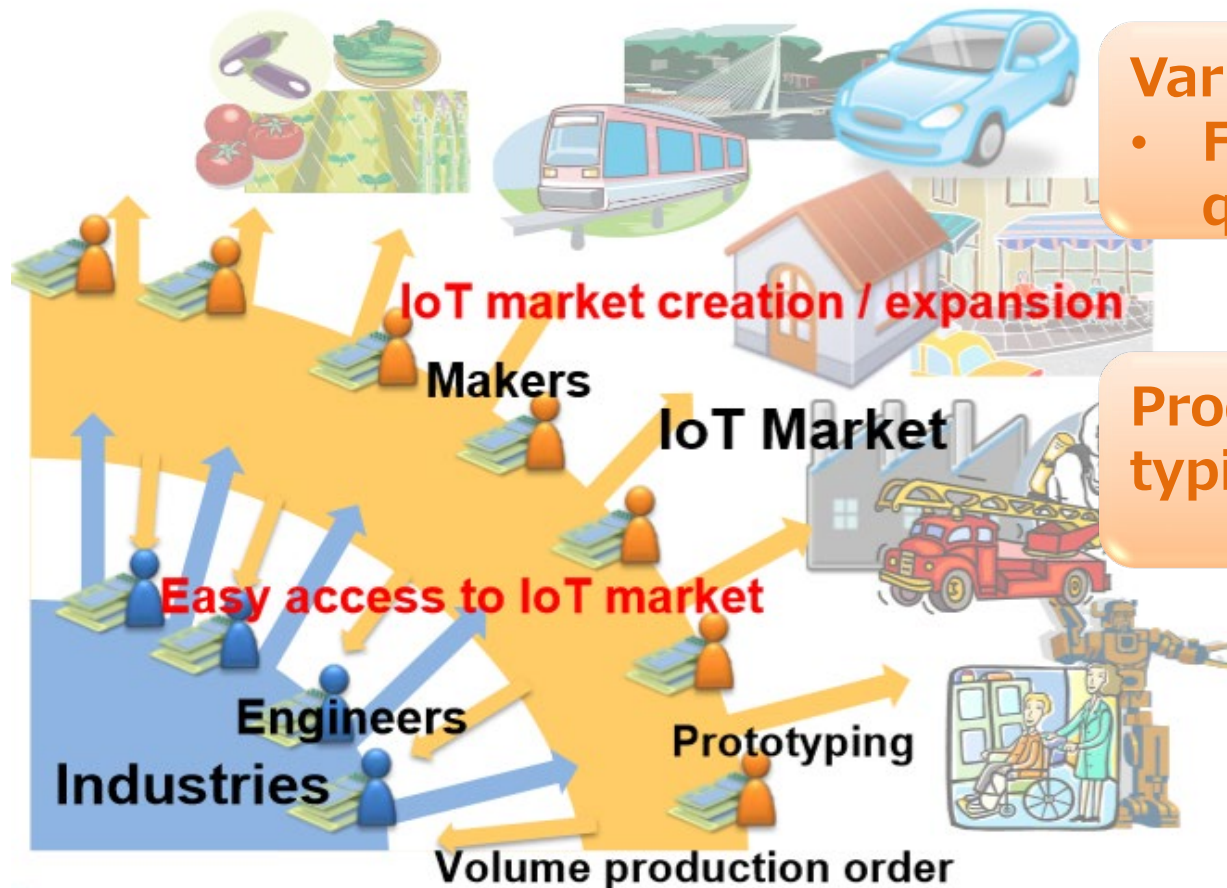
Outline

- Background and Motivation
- Technical Challenges
- Motif data
- Results
- Conclusions

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IoT market trends



Variety & Flexibility
• Function, size, shape, quantity

Product life cycle is typically shorter

Source of reference: Trillion-Node Study Group <https://www.trillion-node.org/>

Quick prototype creation from product ideas is required.

Concept of “Leafony”

- Development of IoT module assembled without soldering



Conventional module

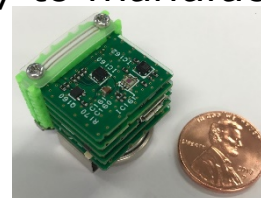
- Compact size: 1/100th volume
- Low-power : 1/10th power consumption
- Time to market of 1/10th

Open source hardware/software

Open documents

Easy to assemble

Easy to manufacture leaf substrate



Leafony

Source of reference: Trillion-Node Study Group <https://www.trillion-node.org/>

- Create, expand & cultivate IoT market with Makers
- Help industries achieve short TAT, easy and low-cost access to market

Anyone can design
Anyone can manufacture prototype

Technical scheme & assembly variation of Leafony

■ Technical scheme



Leaf
common ex.29-pins I/F



Leaves in 3D assembled with bolts

Source of reference: Trillion-Node Study Group <https://www.trillion-node.org/>

■ Assembly variation



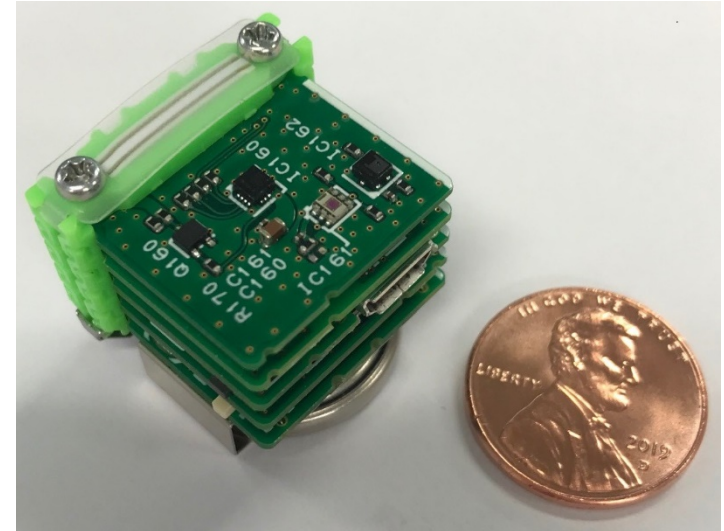
Stacking type (standard)



Application of flat type

Development Issues of IoT module “Leafony”

- Issue1: Compact 3D assembled substrate design
 - 3D clearance check
 - 3D collision check
 - 3D electro connection check
- Issue2: Complete prototype quickly with low cost
 - Decreases efficiency if design and manufacturing takes a long time
 - Low volume manufacturing is costly



Challenges in both substrate design environment and
prototype manufacturing

Issue1 : 3D assembled substrate design

- 2D substrate design
 - 2D electrical connection check
 - single board DRC

2D Layout CAD

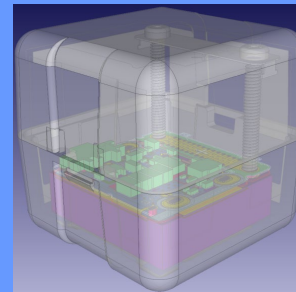
Substrate design



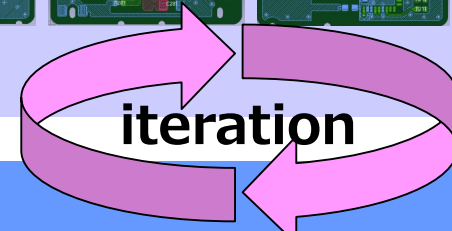
Need 3D layout

- Mechanical design
 - Can't check electrical connection
 - Can't check design by rule
 - Takes time to create data

Mechanical CAD



- 3D collision check
- assembly check



A board design env. that considers 3D layout during design is required

Issue2 : Complete prototype quickly with low cost

- Steps of IoT prototyping by Leafony
 - Use existing leaf motif
 - Create necessary new leaf module
 - Design new module
 - Assemble new PCB
 - Mount new component on PCB



- Takes at least 1 week
- High cost for low volume

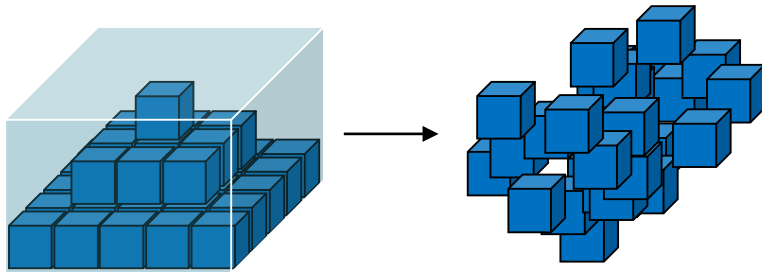
Design and manufacture of prototype with short TAT,
low cost is required

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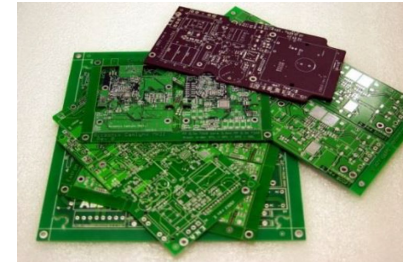
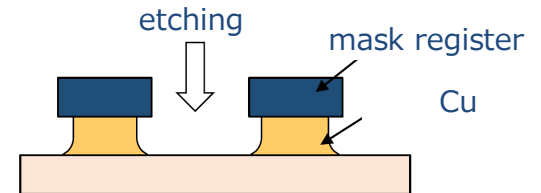
Prototyping by Additive manufacturing

Subtractive manufacturing

→ constructed by cutting material away



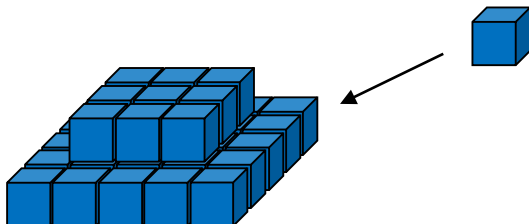
Circuit formation



<http://www.extrondesign.com.au/pcb-design.htm>

Additive manufacturing

→ constructed by depositing material



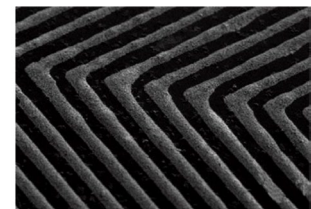
Material technology

- metal nano colloidal
- conductive paste

Printing technology

- ink jet
- dispenser
- photo printing
- screen printing

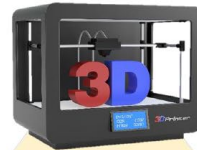
Direct printing of
conductive material
→ sintering



http://www.fujikura.co.jp/eng/rd/gihou/backnumber/pages/___icsFiles/afidfile/2014/07/04/43e_06.pdf

Additive manufacturing by Electronic device manufacturing printer

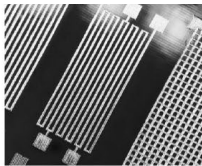
- Integration of three functions : “FPM-Trinity”



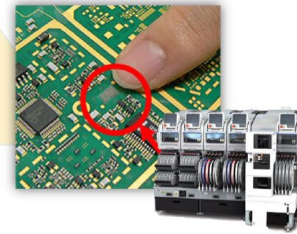
3D printer

FPM-Trinity

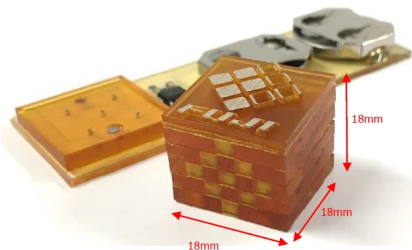
Electric circuit printing



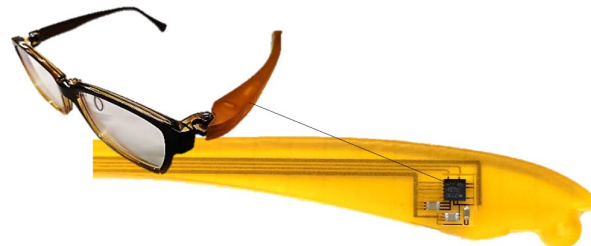
Component mounting



- Sample cases
LED cube



Glasses with gyro sensor



IoT module



Electronic device manufacturing printer I/F

- Create circuit board with a 3D printer

2D CAD

Module design
(Case, Circuit)



Mechanical CAD

Import DXF



Create Resin shape
data



Create Circuit shape
data



Create Component &
bump location data



Export final STL

FPM-Trinity

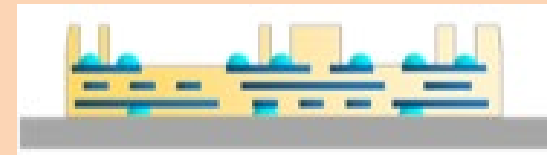
(Electronic device manufacturing printer)



Dielectric layer formation



Electric circuit formation

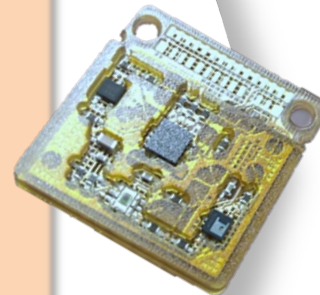


Bump formation



Component mounting

Finish



Takes time to create data by Mechanical CAD

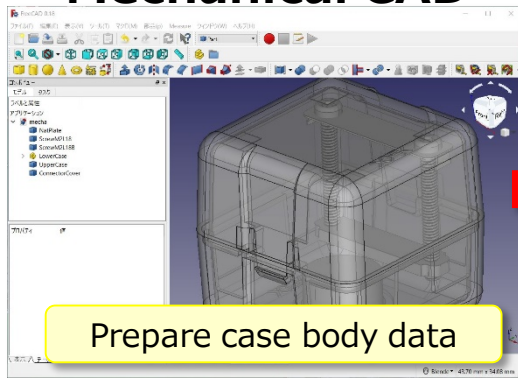
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- Background and Motivation
- **Technical challenges**
- Motif data
- Results
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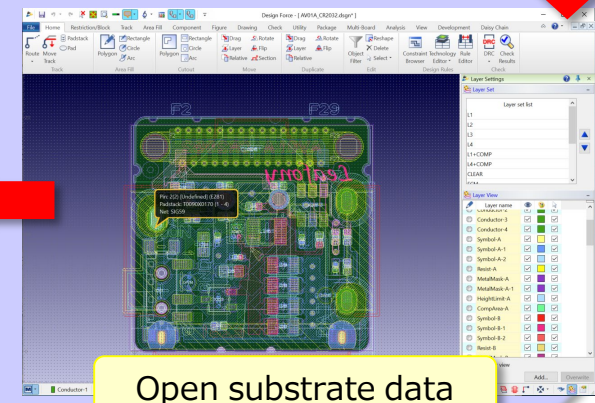
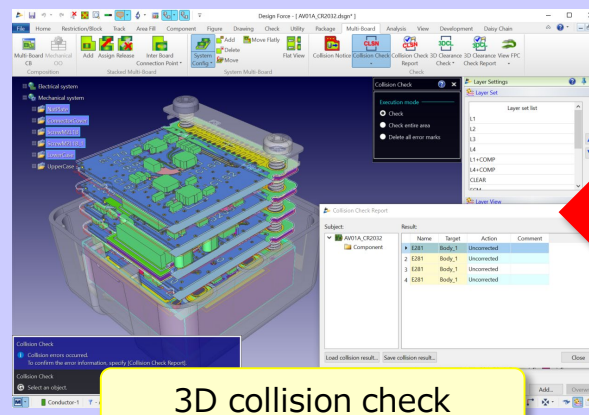
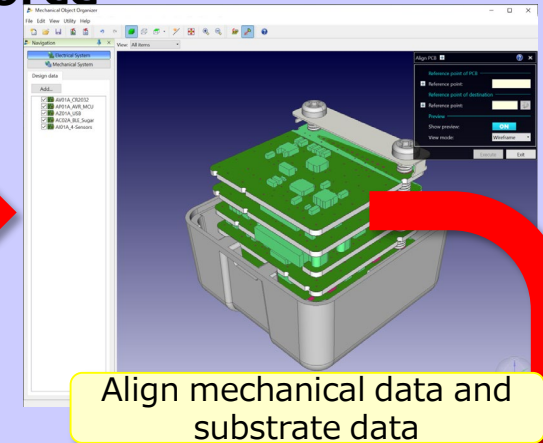
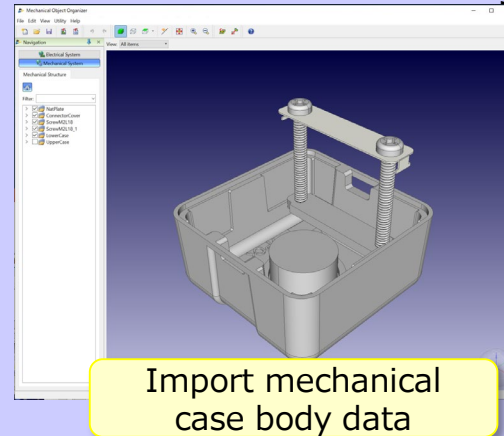
CR-8000 Design Force Electronics & Mechanical Co-design

- 3D DRC and 3D collision check during substrate design

Mechanical CAD



Design Force

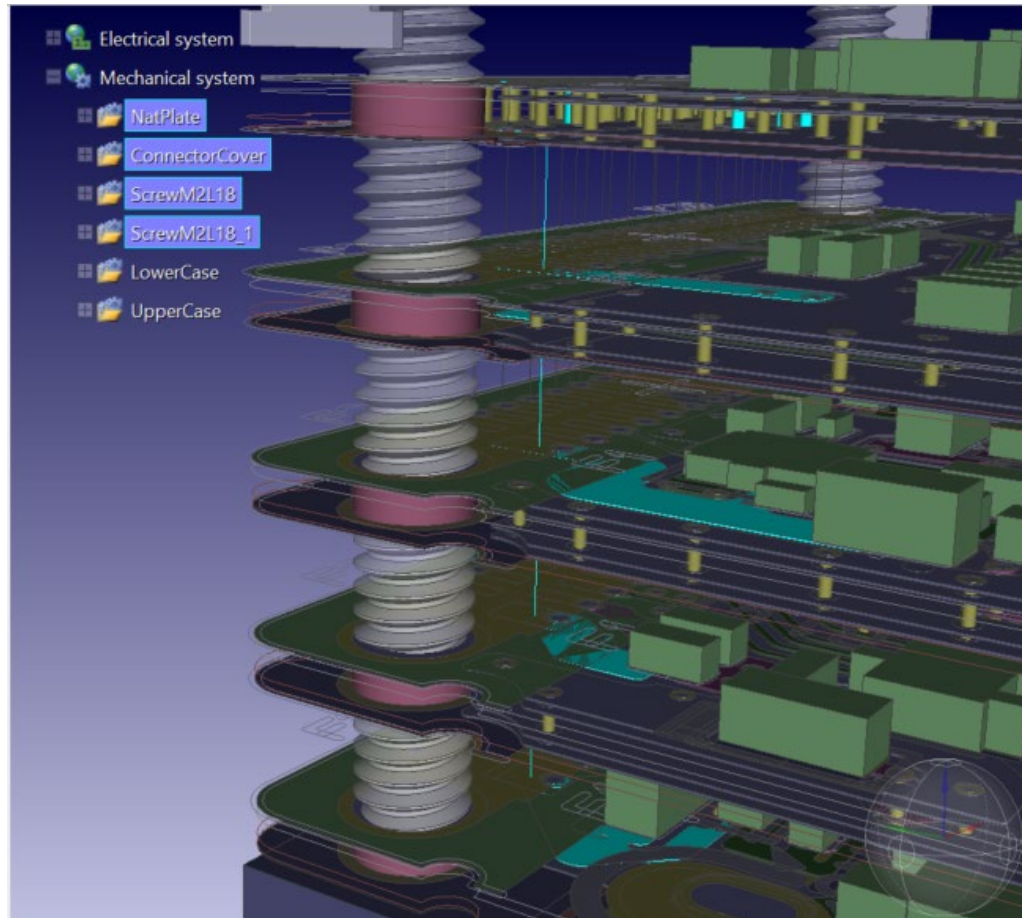


Reduce iteration b/w substrate design and mechanical design

CR-8000 Design Force

3D assembled multiple board design

- System nets connection between multiple board design



Electrical connection check b/w Leaf substrates

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CR-8000 Design Force

Electronic device manufacturing printer I/F

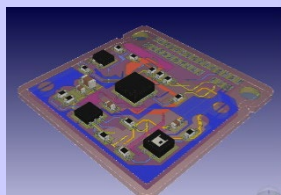
- Passing digital data from the board CAD to printer

CR-8000 Design Force

FPM-Trinity

(Electronic device manufacturing printer)

Module design
(Case, Circuit)



I/F digital data

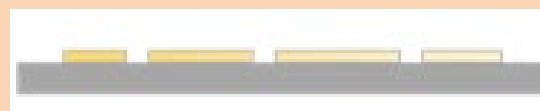
Resin shape 3D data

Circuit shape 3D data

Component & bumps
location data

Input raw material

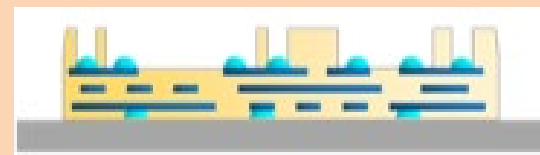
- UV resin ink
- Nano silver ink
- Ag paste
- Component



Dielectric layer formation



Electric circuit formation

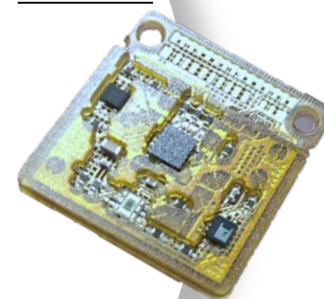


Bump formation



Component mounting

Finish



Realize short TAT & low-cost prototyping

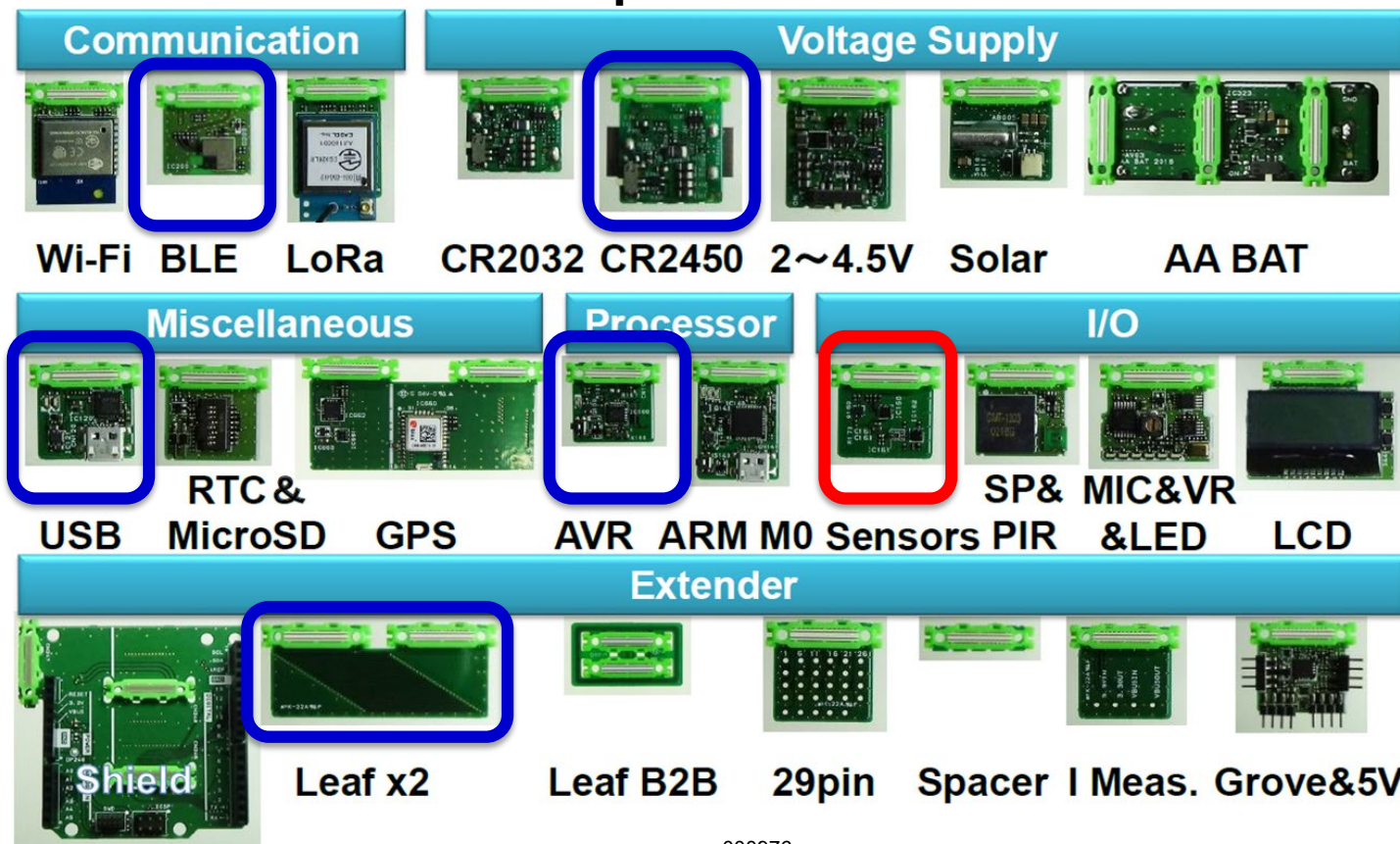
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Motif data

- Apply usable leaf modules ☐
- Design & manufacture new sensor module only ☐

Open leaf module

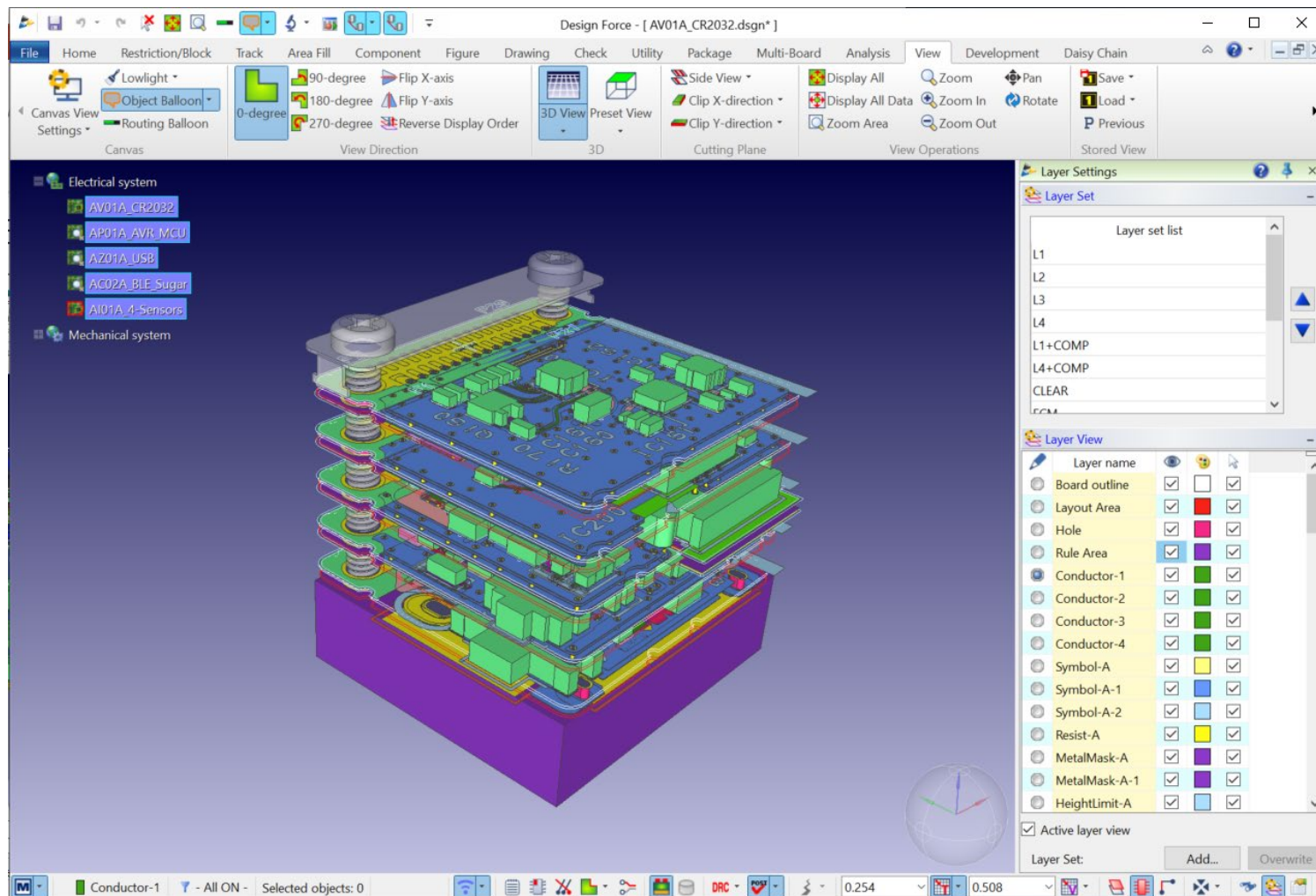


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Electronics & Mechanical Co-design

■ Sensor leaf design & 3D clearance check by Design Force



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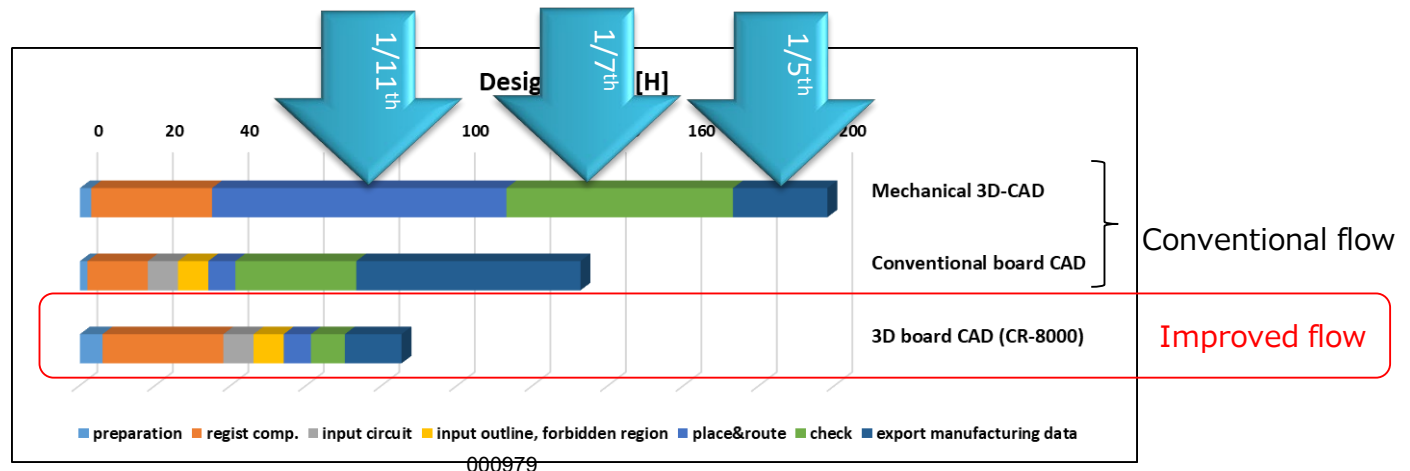
Effect of improving 3D substrate design flow

• Reduce TAT while improving quality

- ✓ ① Registration manufacturing data in component library
- ✓ ② 3D view each module associated case data
- ✓ ③ move components b/w modules in substrate design linked with circuit design
- ✓ ④ modeling the pin shape exactly for 3D stack
- ✓ ⑤ Leaf module imposition by substrate CAD
- ✓ ⑥ Change output data from STEP to STL
- ✓ ⑦ Apply manufacturing correction by substrate CAD
- ✓ ⑧ Output final digital data to 3D printer from substrate CAD
- ✓ ⑨ Output coordinate data of mounted components
- ✓ ⑩ Output data for electric checker
- ✓ ⑪ Output manufacturing data at once by batch

✓ : improve quality

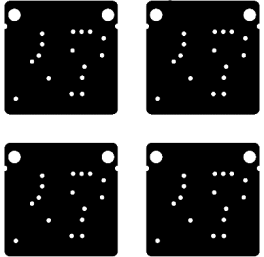
✓ : reduce man-hours



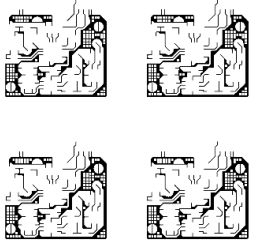
Sensor leaf prototyping & testing

- Confirm 100% yield

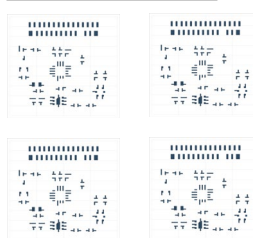
Resin shape 3D data



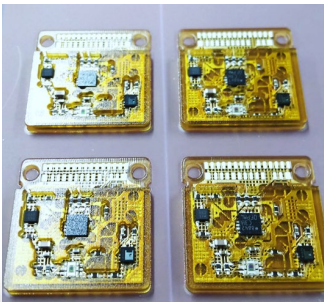
Circuit 3D shape data



Component & bumps
Location data



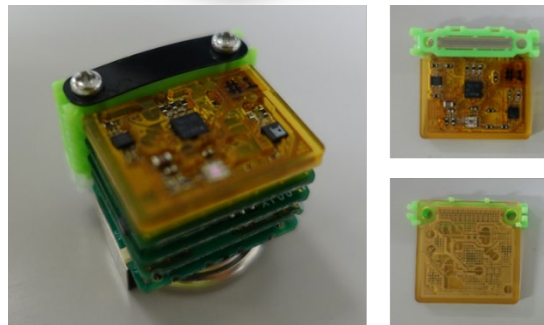
Prototype board (4pcs)



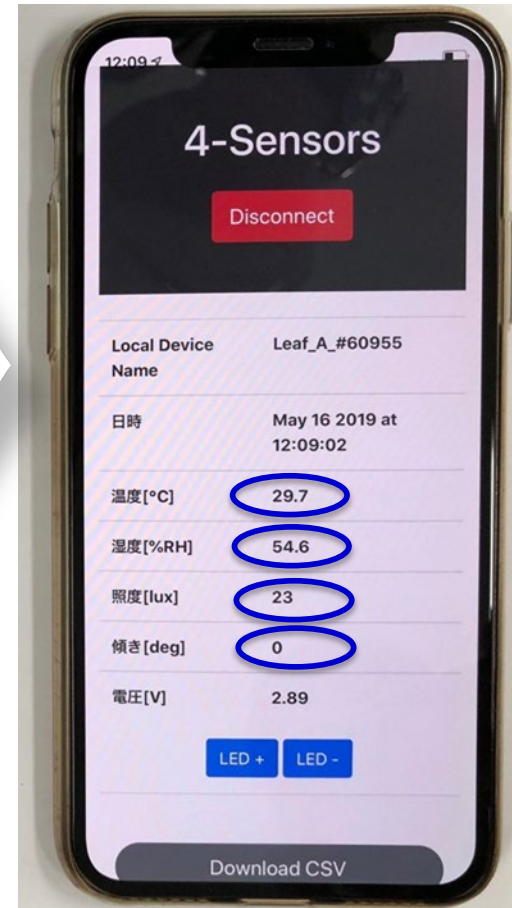
Printing

assemble

Operation
test



Result → OK (4/4 pcs)

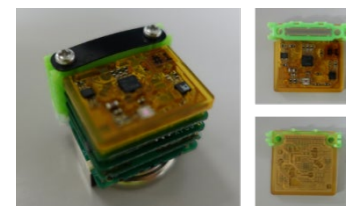


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Conclusions

- IoT module design by 3D-CAD
 - 3D clearance & 3D collision check during substrate design
 - Electrical connection check b/w multiple modules
 - Seamless and straight design w/o wasteful iteration
 - Efficient data I/F directly to electronic device manufacturing printer
- Shorter development period by above design environment & the IoT module development platform
 - Complete IoT prototyping within 3 days keeping quality
 - Complete low volume prototyping with low cost using additive manufacturing



Product ideas come true on demand

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