



## Towards A Flexible Future

**Dr Beverley Brown**  
*Chief Scientist*

# Forward Looking Statements



**This presentation contains forward-looking statements about SmartKem Ltd. based on management’s current expectations which are subject to known and unknown uncertainties and risks.**

Words such as “anticipated,” “initiate,” “expect,” “intend,” “plan,” “believe,” “seek,” “estimate,” “may,” and variations of these words or similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Our actual results could differ materially from those discussed due to a number of factors, including, but not limited to, our ability to raise additional equity and debt financing on favorable terms, the success of our products under development and other risk factors.

We are providing this information as of the date of this presentation and do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this presentation as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Unless the context requires otherwise, references to “SmartKem,” “Company,” “we,” “us” and “our” refer to SmartKem Ltd.

# Company Overview

## Enabling today's flexible electronics

- . Employees: 38 FTEs
- . Funding to date: \$60M+
- . 150+ PhD years in the development of organic semiconductors
- . 8,000ft<sup>2</sup> R&D facility in Manchester, UK
- . Foundry service for prototyping at UK's Centre for Process Innovation (CPI)
- . Extensive IP portfolio comprising 16 patent families (~120 issued patents; 15 pending & > 30 codified company trade secrets)



# Significant Market Opportunities



**\$186 Bn Global Display Market 8% CAGR**  
Driven by demand for consumer electronics

Smartphones



Automotive



E-Paper Displays



Colour e-reader tablets



Flat Panel Displays  
(Mini-LED backlights)

Flexible

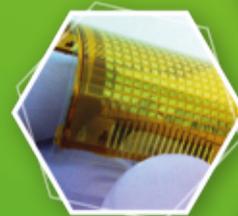
Bendable

Wearable

Lightweight

**\$151 Bn Sensor Market 6% CAGR**  
Driven by IoT and wearables

Wearables



E-Skin  
Technology  
Developments



Fingerprint Sensors



Printed  
Biosensors

\* Global Display Market 2019 – 2023 – In depth analysis of the growth drivers, market trends and challenges – Business Wire, A Berkshire Hathaway Company

\*<https://www.marketresearchfuture.com/reports/sensor-market-4392>

# Setting Up For Successful Mass Deployment

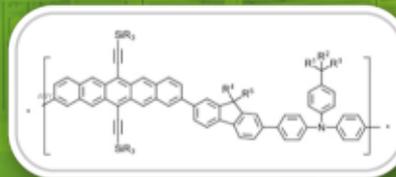
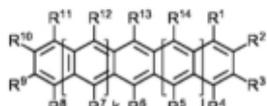


Mass Deployment

# 1. TRUFLEX<sup>®</sup> Inks – Available at Scale



## Components of TRUFLEX<sup>®</sup> Inks



### High Mobility, Small Molecule

- Intrinsic mobility  $\geq 10 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$
- Technical team has excellent understanding of formulations
- In-depth knowledge of how to combine small molecule/semiconducting polymer to maximise the performance of OSC layer and resulting oTFT
- More than 50 years expertise relating to OSC formulation



### Semiconducting Polymer 'Controls'

- Morphology of OSC layer
- Phase segregation & uniformity of SM
- Viscosity of ink



### Solvents

- Solubilise SM & Binder
- Modify surface tension
- Influence ink viscosity
- Customise for range of printing methods

- Best in class performance
- Compatible with existing a-Si process lines
- Scaled up manufacture

# 2. TRUFLEX<sup>®</sup> Electronic Design Automation Tools



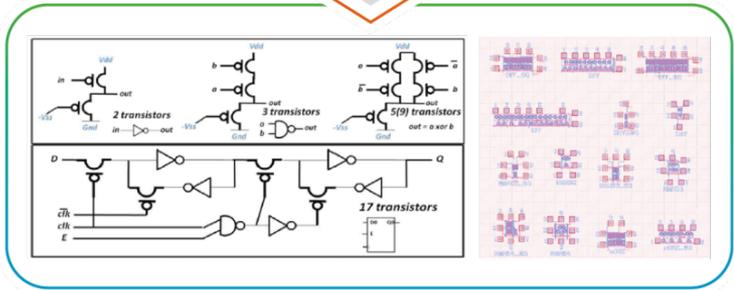
– In development



## EDA Components to Libraries

| Device     | PCell name               | Design parameters   | Symbol | Layout |
|------------|--------------------------|---|--------|--------|
| Resistor   | rlin_lw<br>rlin_rw       | w strip width<br>l strip length / r resistance                                |        |        |
|            | rsnake_lwz<br>rsnake_rwz | w strip width<br>z meanders number<br>l vertical bars length / r resistance   |        |        |
| Capacitor  | cap_lw<br>cap_cw         | w upper plate width<br>l upper platelength / c capacitance                    |        |        |
| Inductor   | indsq_srwnt              | s turns spacing<br>r interior turn radius<br>w turns width<br>nt number turns |        |        |
|            | indoct_srwnt             | s turns spacing<br>r interior turn radius<br>w turns width<br>nt number turns |        |        |
| Diode      | diode_lw                 | l upper contact length<br>w upper contact width                               |        |        |
| Transistor | potft_wl                 | l channel length<br>w channel width   |        |        |

- .EDA tools establishment
- .PDK (Process Design Kit) establishment (at PE foundries)
  - Standard cells – parameterizable cells (p-cells)
  - Libraries of circuits and other PE devices (force sensor, OLED, OPD, biosensor etc)



# 3. TRUFLEX® Foundry Services



**CPI Prototyping facility  
for materials qualification,  
process development  
& fabrication**

**Adding digital lithography  
for full-custom circuits  
- sheet to sheet initially  
and then **roll-to-roll**  
in the future**



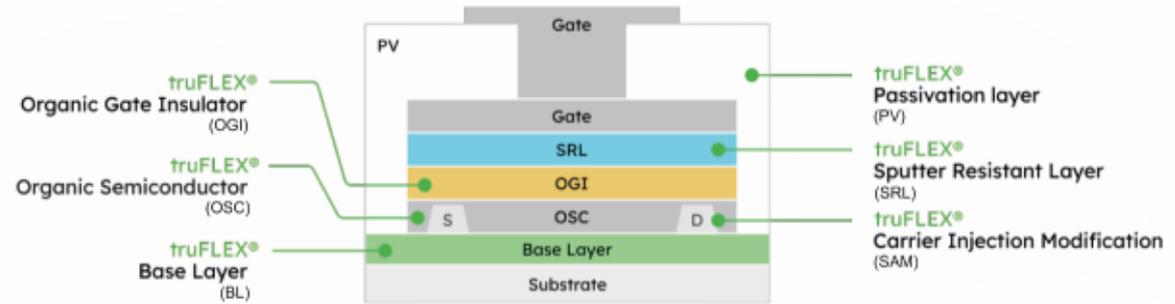
Digital  
Lithography



# SmartKem Technology Advantage



Leader in the **design, development,** scale up and manufacture of **solution-deposited organic semiconductors** for transistor backplanes



## Ease of Technology Transfer

Own chemistry, process and stack IP

## Ideal for today's flexible displays

Fabricated on low-cost glass & plastic

## Drop in technology for a-Si lines

(and ready for next gen)

World leading electronic performance

Meets industry test specifications

On specific parameters, outperforms competitive materials ( a-Si, IGZO & LTPS)



# SmartKem OTFT – Towards a Flexible Future

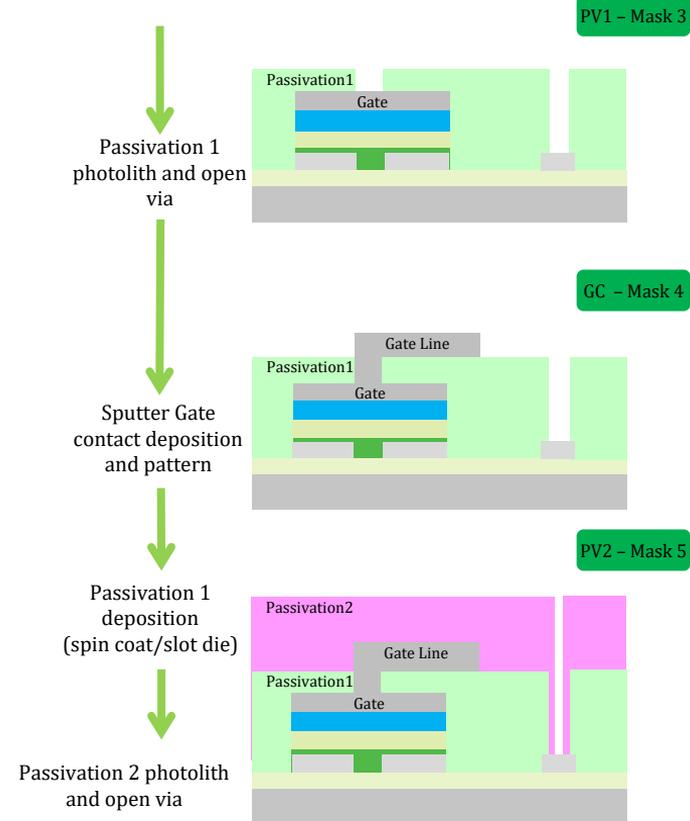
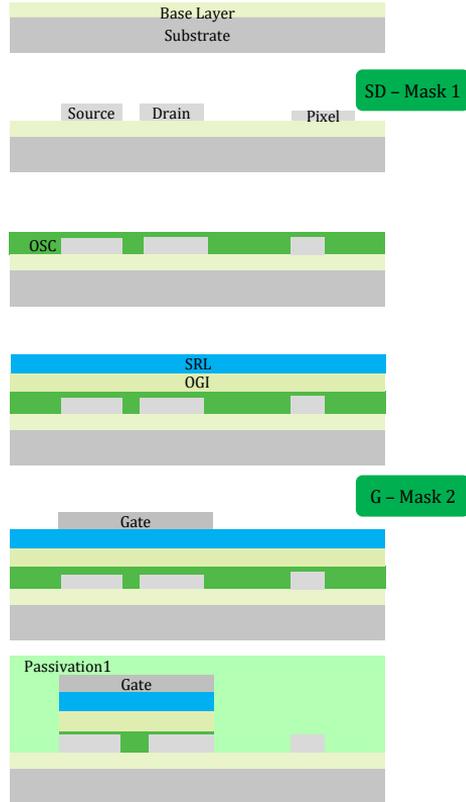


| Parameter                                | SmartKem OTFT  | a-Si                    | IGZO                        | LTPS                             |
|--|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Current Usage                            | In development (demonstrated in e-paper, LCD and OLED) | LCD and rigid e-paper   | OLED TV and some tablet LCD | Mobile phone (OLED and some LCD) |
| Typical Charge Mobility in Display Pixel | 3 cm <sup>2</sup> /Vs                                  | 0.5 cm <sup>2</sup> /Vs | 10 cm <sup>2</sup> /Vs      | 50+ cm <sup>2</sup> /Vs          |
| Process Temperature                      | 80 °C  | 300 °C                  | 320 °C                      | 350 °C                           |
| Substrate Compatibility                  | Wide range of plastics and glass                       | Glass                   | PI/glass                    | PI/glass                         |
| Current Driving Stability                | Very Good  | Average                 | Very Good                   | Excellent                        |
| Off Current                              | Excellent  | Average                 | Excellent                   | Average                          |
| Impact Resistance                        | Excellent  | Poor                    | Poor                        | Poor                             |
| Bend Radius                              | 0.5mm  | 4mm                     | 2mm                         | 4mm                              |
| Manufacturing Maturity                   | Prototype  | Excellent               | Fair                        | Good                             |
| Process Cost                             | Low  | Low                     | Medium/High                 | Medium/High                      |

# truFLEX® OTFT – Fabrication Process



Substrate with suitable interfacial layer  
 ↓  
 Sputtered Source/drain deposition  
 ↓  
 OSC deposition (spin coat/slot die)  
 ↓  
 OGI & SRL deposition (spin coat/slot die)  
 ↓  
 Sputtered Gate deposition and pattern  
 ↓  
 Dry etch OGI & OSC  
 ↓  
 Passivation1 deposition (spin coat/slot die)



# OTFT Applications



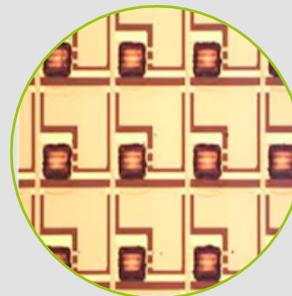
*Information  
Displays*



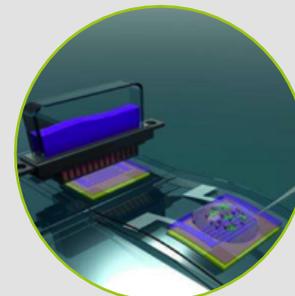
*PoS Displays*



*Touch sensor*



*Printed  
biosensors*



*Displays*

- Many potential applications exist for solution processed OTFT arrays
- Today's presentation will focus on mini-LED backlights (also referred to as Full Array Local Dimming Backlights).

# Mini-LED (Full Array Local Area Dimming) Backlights: Background

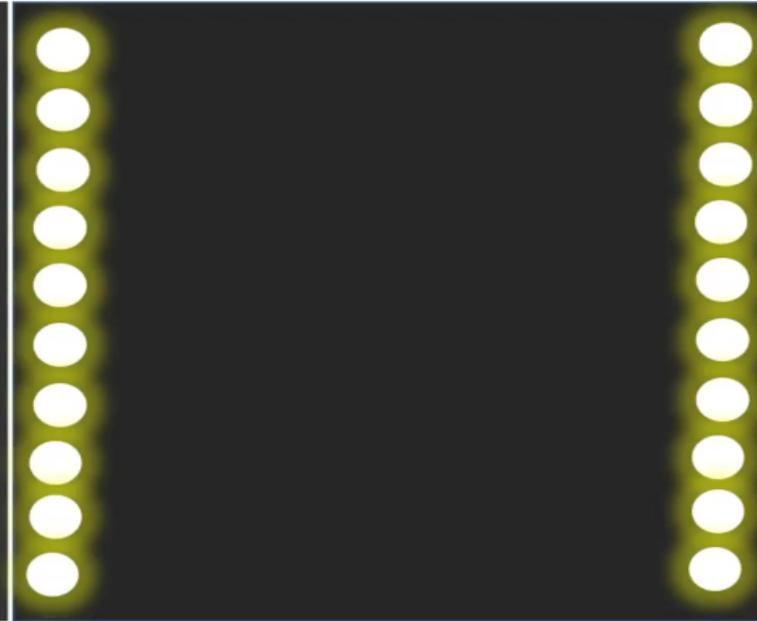


LCD  
Contrast ratio 1000:1

# Edge Lit LCD Display- No local dimming



LCD image

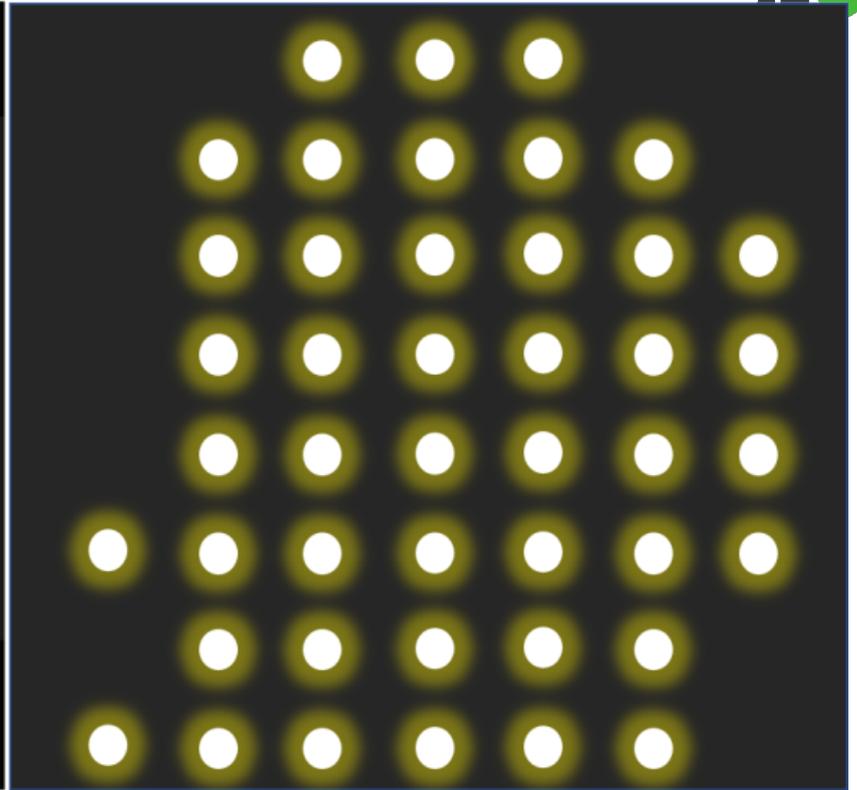


Backlight illumination

# Direct Lit – <100 Zones



LCD Image

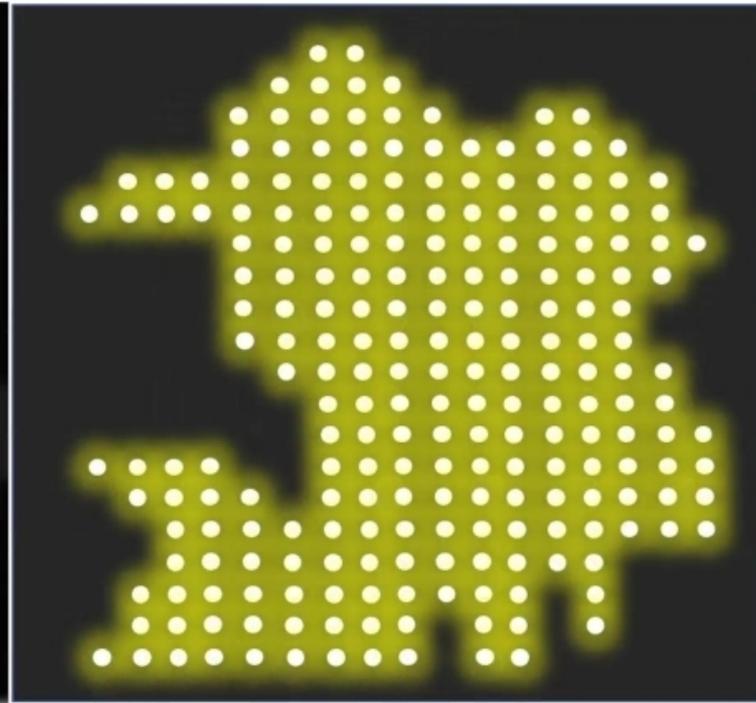


Backlight illumination

# Mini LED backlight LCD – 1000's of Zones



LCD image



Backlight illumination

# FALD – many 1000's of Zones



LCD Image

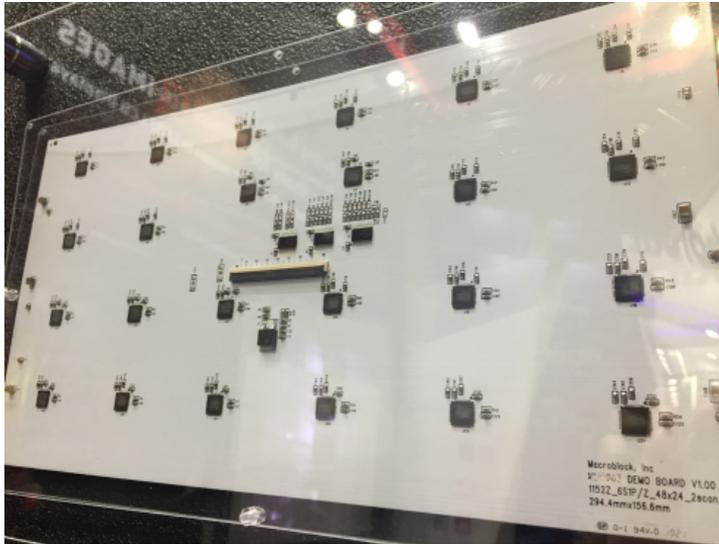


Backlight illumination

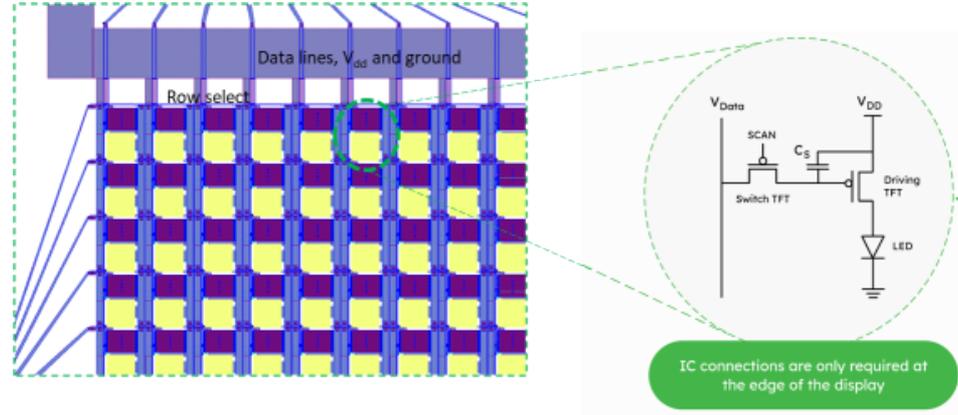
# Mini LED – Direct wiring vs backplane approach



Direct wiring



Backplane matrix driving scheme



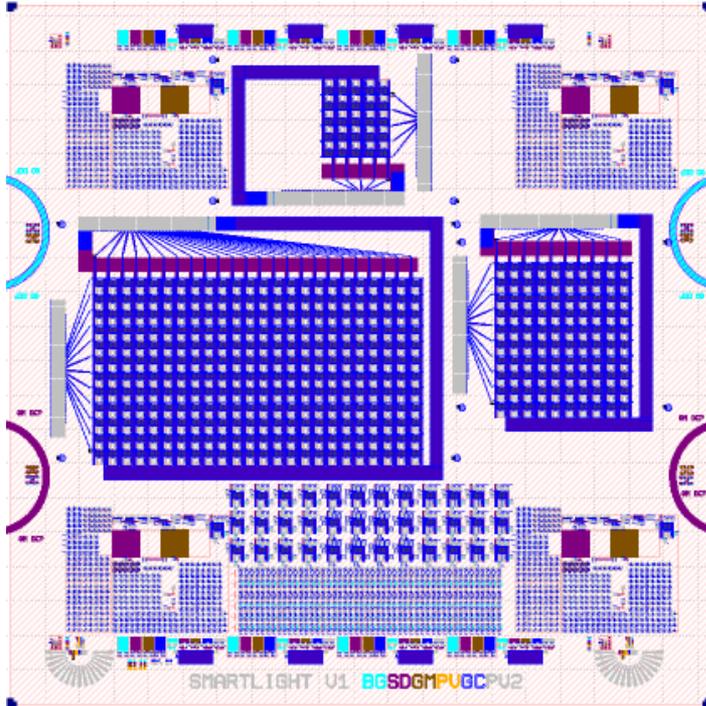
IC connections are only required at the edge of the display

- Glass substrate is flatter and less prone to distortion
- Heat from LEDs can be conducted away from back of substrate (no ICs in the way). On thin plastic substrate, thermal conduction can be very efficient
- Backplane approach can be modified to micro LED in future

# SmartKem OTFT Mini-LED backlight: Recently Completed Customer Designs



Mini-LED backlight panel layout

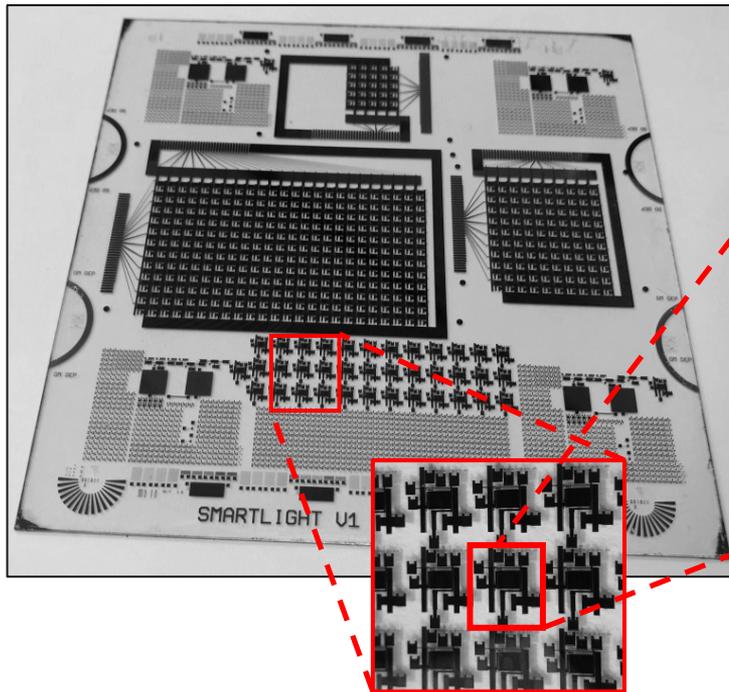
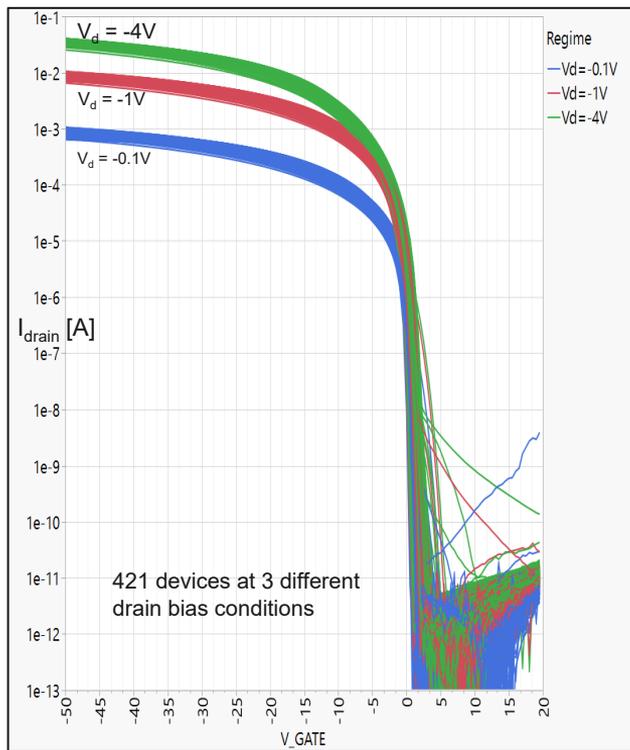


- Contains 3 designs (5 x 5, 10 x 10 and 24 x 12), same pitch (2mm x 2.25mm)
- Individual pixels capable of up to ~100mA current driving at maximum brightness.
- LEDs to be used - 9V operation.
- Process to prepare panel uses 6 masks, and tool sets compatible with a-Si line

# Electrical Performance of TRUFLEX™ OTFT array

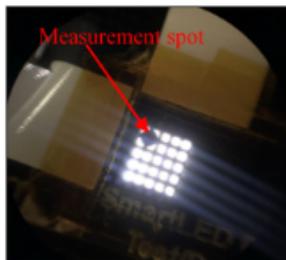


- 40mA median on current,  $V_d = -4V$ ,  $V_g = -50V$
- Off current is a few pA
- On/off ratio is  $\sim 10^{10}$

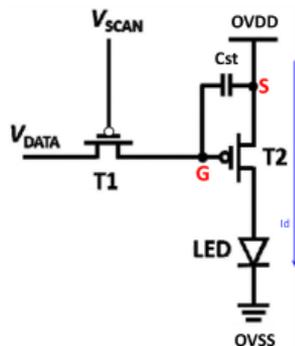
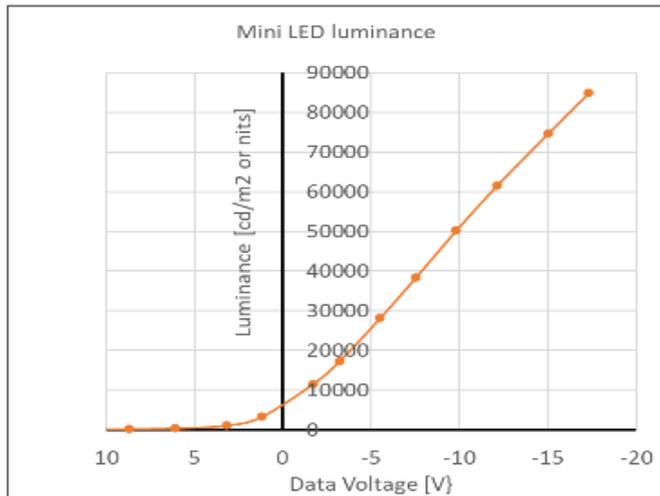


# Backlight luminance testing

$V_{dd}$  to  $V_{ss} = +8.6\text{ V}$   
 $V_{select} = +24\text{V to } -24\text{V}$   
 $V_{data}$  vs Luminance measured



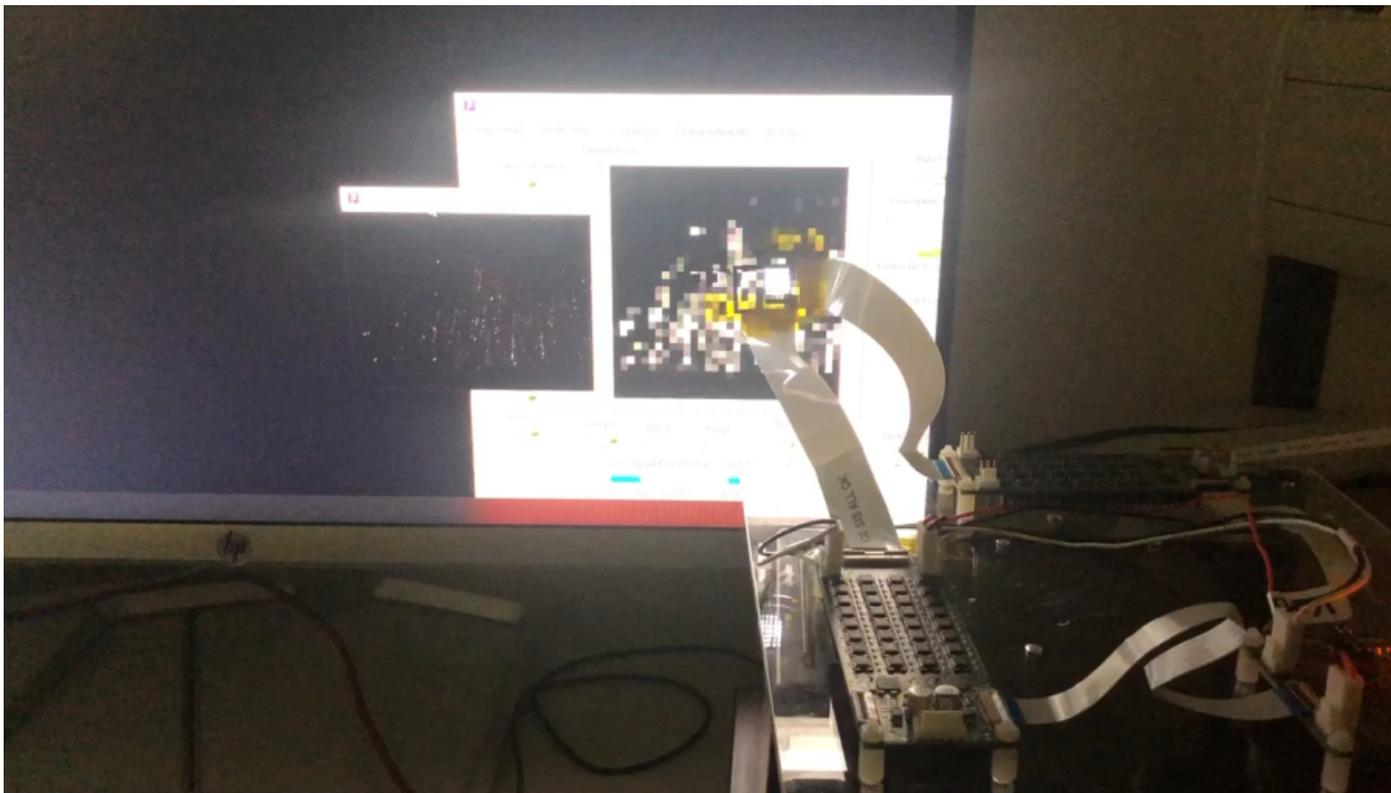
Spectrascan  
PR670



Measured 85,000 nits – equates to 4250 nits front of screen with a 5% transmission through LCD and a contrast ratio of 1,000,000:1 if the LCD has a native contrast ratio of 2000:1



# OTFT Active-Matrix Backlight Testing



# Scale-up OTFT backplane on existing a-Si line





# Thank You

## Questions?

### For more information, contact us

📍 Manchester Technology Centre,  
Hexagon Tower, Delaunays Road,  
Blackley, Manchester, M9 8GQ UK

☎ +44 (0)161 721 1514

✉ [enquiries@smartkem.com](mailto:enquiries@smartkem.com)

©2021 SmartKem. All rights reserved

Dr. Beverley Brown  
Chief Scientist  
[b.brown@smartkem.com](mailto:b.brown@smartkem.com)

 [smartkem.com](http://smartkem.com)