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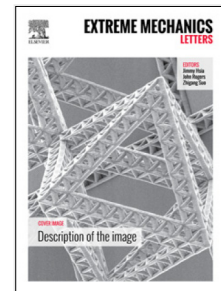
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Collapse of Microfluidic Channels/Reservoirs in Thin, Soft Epidermal Devices

Yeguang Xue¹, Daeshik Kang^{2,3}, Yinji Ma^{1,4}, Xue Feng⁴, John A. Rogers² and Yonggang Huang^{1*}

¹ Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Materials Science and Engineering, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60208, USA

² Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Frederick Seitz Materials Research Laboratory, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL 61801, USA

³ Department of Mechanical Engineering, Ajou University, Suwon, 443-749, Korea

⁴ Department of Engineering Mechanics, Center for Mechanics and Materials, Tsinghua University, Beijing 10084, China

* To whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: y-huang@northwestern.edu

Abstract

Self-collapse is a common problem encountered in fabrication of thin, soft epidermal microfluidic devices, due to the adhesion between top and bottom covers. Analytic models are developed for collapse of both long microfluidic channels and circular microfluidic reservoirs, with their covers modelled as plane-strain beam and thin plate, respectively. The analysis shows that a single parameter, the normalized work of adhesion, which combines the effects of channel/reservoir geometry, work of adhesion and bending stiffness of top and bottom channel/reservoir covers, controls different collapse states (no collapse, meta stable collapse and stable collapse). The established models agree well with the experimental observations,

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