

MATTHEW T. FLAVIN

Contact: matthew.flavin@northwestern.edu

Homepage: <https://flavinresearch.io>

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Cambridge, MA
Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering	2021
Committee: Jongyoon Han, Ph.D. (advisor)	GPA: 5.00/5.00
Charles Lissandrello, Ph.D.	
Polina Anikeeva, Ph.D.	
Dennis Freeman, Ph.D.	

Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Cambridge, MA
Master of Science in Electrical Engineering	2017
	GPA: 5.00/5.00

University of Illinois	Urbana–Champaign, IL
Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering	2015
Minor in Bioengineering	GPA: 3.60/4.00
James Scholar (academic honors)	

RESEARCH VISION

My aim as an independent researcher is to develop powerful peripheral neural interfaces and mechatronic wearables that leverage advanced sensors and intelligent systems to address important and unresolved challenges in mechanobiology and patient care.

RESEARCH POSITIONS

John Rogers Research Group (Northwestern University)	Evanston, IL
Post-doctoral Researcher	December 2021 – Present
Projects led:	
Wireless indentation haptic actuators	
Sensory substation for diabetic neuropathy	
Monitoring of trans-epidermal water loss (TEWL)	

Micro/Nanofluidics and BioMEMS Research Group (MIT)	Cambridge, MA
Post-doctoral Researcher	June 2021 – December 2021
Projects led:	Mass transport modelling of plunging jets of brine

Micro/Nanofluidics and BioMEMS Research Group (MIT)	Cambridge, MA
Graduate Research Assistant	August 2015 – May 2021
Projects led:	
Electrochemical modulation of rat sciatic nerve <i>in vivo</i> with ion-selective electrodes	
Advanced architectures for electrochemical modulation, closed-loop and continuous operation	
Rapid manufacturing of cuff electrodes	
Fundamental study of active electrical polarization of ion-selective membranes	

Biophotonics Imaging Research Group (UIUC)	Champaign, IL
Undergraduate Researcher	January 2014 – July 2015
Projects led:	
Magneto-mechanical stimulation of metabolic activity in cultured cells	
Gauss–Newton curve-fitting on FPGA hardware for real-time FLIM imaging	

John Rogers Research Group (UIUC)	Champaign, IL
Undergraduate Researcher	September 2012 – September 2014
Projects:	
Three-dimensional architectures of micro/nanomaterials	
Skin-conformable microfluidic devices	
Fabrication of network composite materials	

Argonne National Laboratory

Undergraduate Researcher

Projects: Ratiometric FRET-based protein microarray using nanocrystal donor molecules

Lemont, IL

May 2013 – August 2013

GRANT ACTIVITY

Brine Dispenser and Dilution Utilizing Novel Plunging Liquid Jet Reactor Incorporating Annular Riser 2024

Status: under review

Research Sector, Kuwait University

Role: Co-investigator

Full Freedom-of-Motion Haptic Actuators and Their Use in a Wireless System for VR Environments 2023

Status: awarded

Army (W911QY-20-R-0022)

Role: Co-investigator

Haptic neuro-prosthesis for spinocerebellar ataxia 2023

Status: awaiting site visit as a finalist

Raynor Cerebellum Project

Role: Co-investigator

High-frequency Electrical and Thermal Stimulation for Pain Management 2019

Draper Internal Research and Development Grant

Principle Investigator: Charles Lissandrello, Ph.D.

Role: Co-investigator

Focal Neuromodulation via Localized Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} depletion and enrichment 2016

BRAIN Initiative RFA-EY-16-001

Principle Investigator: Jongyoon Han, Ph.D.

Localized Modulation of Synaptic Activity Using Calcium Ion-selective Membrane Coated Electrodes 2015

Amar G. Bose research grant (MIT internal)

Principle Investigator: Jongyoon Han, Ph.D.

Role: Co-investigator

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

NIH Fellowship in Circadian and Sleep Research October 2023 – Present

Ruth L. Kirschstein Institutional National Research Service Award (T32)

Draper Laboratory Fellowship August 2015 – May 2021

NIH Brain Initiative Course on Models and Neurobiology July 2016

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

M. Flavin,* R. Macaluso,* J. Cornman,* M. Park, J.-Y. Yoo, S. Bandapalli, T. Saxena, F. Al-Najjar, A. Akhtar, A. Jayaraman, J. Rogers (*equal contribution), "Sensory substitution with a multimodal somatosensory interface," submission planned Dec. 2023.

J. Shin*, **M. Flavin**,* S. Li,* A. Huang, W. Sung, T. Huang, J.-K. Chang, J. Rogers (*equal contribution), "Continuous measurements of trans-epidermal water loss in a skin-mounted device," submission planned Nov. 2023.

M. Flavin,* K. Ha,* Z. Guo,* S. Li,* J. Kim,* T. Saxena, F. Al-Najjar, S. Bandapalli, C. Fan, D. Bai, Z. Zhang, J. Yoo, M. Park, J. Shin, A. Huang, H. Shin, Y. Huang, Z. Xie, H. Jiang, J. Rogers (*equal contribution), "Bioelastic state recovery for haptic sensory substitution," under first revision in *Nature*, 2023.

E. Flavin, M. Chung, S. Hwang, **M. Flavin**, “Developing the area measurement reasoning of elementary students with augmented reality activities,” submission planned Feb. 2024.

E. Flavin, S. Hwang, **M. Flavin**, “The effects of augmented reality use on mathematics achievement of K–12 students: A meta-analysis,” under review in *International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education*, Oct. 2023.

E. Flavin, S. Hwang, **M. Flavin**, “Multi-dimensional engagement of Haitian immigrant parents in mathematics education,” under review in *Educational Studies in Mathematics*, Sep. 2023.

M. Flavin,* J. Fernandes,* R. AlQabandi, E. Adams, J. Han, B. Al-Anzi (*equal contribution), “Numerical modeling of plunging jets of brine: mass transport and implications for desalination plant outfalls,” *Desalination*, vol. 568, 116996, Dec. 2023.

M. Park, J.-Y. Yoo, T. Yang, Y. Hwan Jung, A. Vázquez-Guardado, S. Li, J.-H. Kim, J. Shin, W.-Y. Maeng, G. Lee, S. Yoo, H. Luan, J.-T. Kim, H.-S. Shin, **M. Flavin**, H.-J. Yoon, N. Miljkovic, Y. Huang, W. King, and J. Rogers, “Skin-integrated systems for power efficient, programmable thermal sensations across large body areas,” in *Proceedings from the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, vol. 120, no. 6, e2217828120, Jan. 2023.

M. Flavin, C. Lissandrello, J. Han, “Real-time, dynamic monitoring of selectively driven ion-concentration polarization,” in *Electrochimica Acta*, vol. 426, 140770, Sep. 2022.

M. Flavin, M. Paul, X. Lim, C. Lissandrello, R. Ajemian, S. Lin, J. Han, “Electrochemical modulation enhances the selectivity of peripheral neurostimulation in vivo,” in *Proceedings from the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, vol. 119, no. 23, e2117764119, June 2022.

J. Yoon, **M. Flavin**, J. Han, “Current efficiency and selectivity reduction caused by co-ion leakage in electro-membrane processes,” in *Water Research*, vol. 201, 117351, Aug. 2021.

M. Flavin, M. Paul, X. Lim, S. Abdulhamed, C. Lissandrello, R. Ajemian, S. Lin, J. Han, “Rapid and low cost manufacturing of cuff electrodes,” in *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, vol. 16, 628778, Feb. 2021.

M. Flavin, D. Freeman, J. Han, “Interfacial ion transfer and current limiting in neutral-carrier ion-selective membranes: A detailed numerical model,” in *Journal of Membrane Science*, vol. 572, pp. 374-381, Feb. 2019.

K. I. Jang, H. U. Chung, S. Xu, C. H. Lee, H. Luan, J. Jeong, H. Cheng, G. T. Kim, S. Y. Han, J. W. Lee, J. Kim, M. Cho, F. Miao, Y. Yang, H. N. Jung, **M. Flavin**, H. Liu, G. W. Kong, K. J. Yu, S. I. Rhee, J. Chung, B. Kim, M. H. Yun, J. Y. Kim, Y. M. Song, U. Paik, Y. Zhang, Y. Huang, J. A. Rogers, “Soft network composite materials with deterministic, bio-Inspired designs,” in *Nature Communications*, vol. 18, no. 6, 6566, Mar. 2015.

S. Xu,* Z. Yan,* K. Jang, W. Huang, H. Fu, J. Kim, Z. Wei, **M. Flavin**, J. McCracken, R. Wang, A. Badea, H. Liu, D. Xiao, G. Zhou, J. Lee, H. U. Chung, H. Cheng, W. Ren, A. Banks, X. Li, U. Paik, R. G. Nuzzo, Y. Huang, Y. Zhang, J. A. Rogers, “Assembly of micro/nanomaterials into complex, three-dimensional architectures by compressive buckling,” in *Science*, vol. 347, no. 6218, pp. 154-159, Jan. 2015. (Cover Figure)

S. Xu,* Y. Zhang,* L. Jia,* K. E. Mattewson,* K. Jang, J. Kim, H. Fu, X. Huang, P. Chava, R. Wang, S. Bhole, L. Wang, Y. J. Na, Y. Guan, **M. Flavin**, Z. Han, Y. Huang, J. A. Rogers, “Soft microfluidic assemblies of sensors, circuits, and radios for the skin,” in *Science*, vol. 344, no. 6179, pp. 70-74, Apr. 2014.

PATENTS

J. Han, D. Freeman, **M. Flavin**, U.S. Patent Application 17/741,921, “Architectures and Methods for Electrochemical Neuromodulation,” 2022.

CLINICAL TRIALS

Multimodal haptic feedback for plantar sensory substitution April 20 – Present
Northwestern IRB # STU00218277
Role: Investigator

Evaluation of haptic feedback in a novel acoustomechanic device for behavioral scratch modification in atopic dermatitis Feb. 6 – Present
Northwestern IRB # STU0021480
Role: Investigator

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR

M. Flavin, K. Ha, Z. Guo, S. Li, J. Kim, Y. Huang, Z. Xie, H. Jiang, J. Rogers, “Neural mechatronics and mixed reality for patient healthcare,” presented (as a poster) at Gordon Robotics 2024, Ventura, California.

M. Flavin, J. Rogers, “Multimodal augmented reality,” presented (orally) at Sustainable Laboratory Showcase 2023, Chicago, Illinois.

M. Flavin, M. Paul, X. Lim, S. Abdulhamed, C. Lissandrello, R. Ajemian, S. Lin, J. Han. “Selective nerve conduction block via focal delivery of high-frequency alternating current from a radial electrode array,” presented (as a poster) at Gordon Bioelectronics 2019, Andover, New Hampshire.

M. Flavin, M. Paul, X. Lim, R. Ajemian, S. Lin, D. Freeman, J. Han, “Focal Manipulation of Neural Interstitial Ion Concentration Using Ion-Selective Membrane Electrodes,” presented (orally) at the Fall meeting of the Material Research Society, 2017, Boston, Massachusetts.

M. Flavin, D. Freeman, J. Han, “Electrochemical neuromodulation using cuff electrodes modified with ion-selective membrane electrodes,” presented (as a poster) at Neuroscience 2017, Washington D.C.

M. Flavin, D. Freeman, J. Han, “Mathematical Modeling of Ion Selective Membrane Systems Subject to Electrical Polarization,” presented (orally) at the 232nd Electrochemical Society Meeting, 2017, New Orleans, Louisiana.

PROFESSIONAL AND EDITORIAL SERVICE

IEEE-EMBS BSN 2024 October 2024
Organizing committee

PNAS Journal Club Panelist October 2022 – Present
Contributed to selections for PNAS’s journal club segment
See: <https://www.pnas.org/journal-club/journal-club-panelists>

Peer review June 2022 – Present
Reviewed articles for *npj Digital Medicine* and *Science Advances*

Undergraduate student mentor (Northwestern University) December 2021 – Present
Led and trained six undergraduate students

Undergraduate student mentor (MIT) August 2015 – May 2021
Hired, trained, and mentored two undergraduate students

TEACHING ACTIVITY

Northwestern Teaching Assistant Spring 2024
Bioelectronics Lab (BME 354)

Outreach
Fairview Elementary Third Grade Class (<https://twitter.com/dist57/status/1722418763155263993>) Nov. 8, 2023
STEM for ALL Brockton Math education program Spring 2023

Guest Lecturer (Northwestern)

Designing Product Interactions (DSGN 495-21)
Wearable Electronics (COMP_ENG 395, 495)

Evanston, IL
Fall 2022
Spring 2023

MIT Teaching Assistant

Biological Systems Modeling (20.334)
Cellular Neurophysiology and Computing (9.21)
Biological Systems Modeling (20.334)

Cambridge, MA
Fall 2021
Fall 2020
Fall 2017

MIT BE Data Lab

Fellow

Cambridge, MA
March 2020 – May 2021

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Clean-room fabrication: photolithography, thin-film deposition, reactive-ion and wet etching
- Electrochemical characterization: electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS), cyclic voltammetry (CV), ion-selective electrode (ISE) potentiometry, inductively-coupled plasma atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES)
- Fluorescence microscopy: widefield, confocal, two-photon, fluorescence lifetime imaging microscopy (FLIM)
- Biological wet-lab: microarray fabrication, cell culturing, EDC/NHS protein functionalization, plasmid amplification and transfection
- Rapid prototyping: CNC milling, 3D printing (FDM and SLA)
- Animal preparations: *ex vivo* bullfrog sciatic nerve, acute *in vivo* rat sciatic nerve, rat hippocampal neuron culture, rat dorsal root ganglion culture
- Embedded electronics design: fPCB design and fabrication, Bluetooth Low-energy (BLE) embedded software, mobile integration
- Numerical simulation: COMSOL Multiphysics, NEURON
- Programming languages (see <https://github.com/mflav>): Python, C, C++, Java, SystemVerilog, Haskell, Julia, Swift
- Mathematical packages: Mathematica, Matlab
- DAQ control: Labview, TDT RPvdsEx/Synapse
- CAD: SolidWorks, AutoCAD, Adobe Illustrator, EAGLE, Blender, Unity
- Other: fabrication and operation of microfluidic devices, GNU/Linux software development, statistical/machine learning

LANGUAGES

Spanish (emergent)
German (emergent)
Korean (emergent)

OTHER ACTIVITY

MIT bouldering wall
Volunteer staff member

Cambridge, MA
September 2015 – May 2021

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Google scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=3VgPQZoAAAAJ>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/matthew-flavin-a6b52250/>

Github: <https://github.com/mflav>

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6636-0445>

Homepage: <https://flavinresearch.io>

REFERENCES

References available upon request