Fabrication of flexible Ag circuit at low temperature using Intense pulsed light energy

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The sintering of variousmetallic nanoparticle pastes in the field of flexible electronics has been studied in recent years extensively using different materials and sintering techniques. Conventional Infra-Red(IR) sintering technique generally requires high temperature and long process times to sinter the metallic nanoparticles. But high temperature process lead to thermal degradation to polymer-based flexible substrates due to their low melting point.

In this contribution, wedesigned the intense pulsed light (IPL) sintering process to solve thisdrawback and measured the electrical performance of a screen-printed Agnano-circuit with various IPL conditions. Different pulse power and pulse time(duration) were used to set the optimum conditions of IPL energy source. Fabricated circuits were sintered with different IPL energy conditions and measure their electrical resistivity by using the 4-point probe method. The IPL-sintered Agcircuit had a lower resistivity, which is low enough to be used for flexible electronics. Sliding test was used to evaluate the flexibility of the circuit under various IPL conditions.