

# 基于体积方差法控制多喷嘴喷射墨滴均匀性

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**摘要** 利用多喷嘴喷墨打印PEDOT:PSS墨水, 重点分析喷墨打印驱动电压波形的高压 $V_H$ 、低压 $V_L$ 、上升沿时间 $T_R$ 、峰值时间 $T_P$ 、下降沿时间 $T_F$ , 通过对多喷嘴同时喷射墨滴的速度与体积的调控优化, 获得了喷射稳定、体积均匀的墨滴; 进一步提出多喷嘴喷射墨滴体积方差的分析方法, 结果表明不同喷嘴同时喷射墨滴的体积变化方差在0.006~0.170范围内。利用体积变化方差对喷墨打印驱动电压参数影响墨滴行为能力的大小进行了排序, 其影响能力从大到小为 $T_R$ 、 $T_P$ 、 $V_H$ 、 $T_F$ 、 $V_L$ 。多喷嘴喷射墨滴体积方差分析方法为实现多喷嘴大面积打印提供了重大的指导意义。

**关键词** 测量; 喷墨打印; 多喷嘴; 墨滴均匀性; 体积方差

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## 1 引言

喷墨打印技术被广泛应用于各种功能材料的图形化, 包括光电器件、柔性可穿戴、生物医疗等领域的功能层可溶材料图形化<sup>[1]</sup>。相较于传统图形化方式, 喷墨打印具有节约材料、大面积、可柔性等特点, 因此受到科研人员的青睐。

1999年, 日本精工爱普生公司与英国剑桥显示技术有限公司在国际信息显示学会(SID)展示了第一台喷墨打印高分子发光二极管(PLED)<sup>[2]</sup>, 随后, 相关公司也进行了相似业务的开发<sup>[3]</sup>。2003年杜邦公司展示了无源全彩点阵显示屏<sup>[4]</sup>, 2004年日本精工爱普生公司制成40 inch(1 inch=2.54 cm)全彩显示屏<sup>[5]</sup>。2005年, 基于喷墨打印技术制备的有源驱动有机发光二极管(OLED)显示屏问世<sup>[6]</sup>。2009年Sakai等<sup>[7-8]</sup>利用3.1 inch的测试板证明了改进的喷墨方法有助于提高大尺寸OLED显示器的质量, 实现电致发光的完全均匀性。2015年Chen等<sup>[9]</sup>使用喷墨打印技术实现了高分辨率打印。2017年Shu等<sup>[10]</sup>采用喷墨打印技术制备了全溶液透明OLED。2018年彭俊彪<sup>[11]</sup>采用喷墨打印技术在自主研制的氧化物薄膜晶体管(TFT)阵列基板上制备了1 inch含120个像素点的AMOLED显示屏。2020年Hibon等<sup>[12]</sup>研究了喷墨打印层与交联层在喷墨打印溶剂作用下的薄膜稳定性, 从而提高了器件

的稳定性。2020年Han等<sup>[13]</sup>采用共溶剂法优化量子点墨水的喷墨打印条件, 改善真空退火辅助量子点发光二极管(QLED)的特性。2021年郭标等<sup>[14]</sup>设计了环己基苯与十八烯的双溶剂量子点墨水体系, 采用喷墨打印工艺制备高性能量子点电致发光点阵器件。2021年唐兆兵等<sup>[15]</sup>介绍了喷墨打印OLED相关材料与器件的研究进展及其在大尺寸显示领域的应用, 并提出OLED材料和器件今后可能的发展方向。

鉴于喷墨打印技术的广泛应用场景与制作成本优势, 喷墨打印喷头逐渐由单喷嘴过渡到多喷嘴。多喷嘴喷墨打印技术在打印过程中可以有多个喷嘴同时喷射墨滴, 适用于大尺寸印刷制品或光电器件的制备。

日本JOLED公司使用Panasonic生产的喷墨打印设备, 在2016年建立了4.5代印刷OLED试验线。2019年, TCL投建了全球第一条喷墨打印面板量产线, 主要生产10~32 inch印刷式OLED显示模组。同年, SAMSUNG在大尺寸显示中使用Kateeva喷墨打印聚焦量子点有机发光二极管(QD-OLED)显示技术, 其中QD层采用喷墨打印工艺, 预计2023年实现量产。深圳市华星光电技术有限公司在2020年1月推出了31 inch喷墨打印可卷绕柔性OLED面板。大面积喷墨打印的主要缺点为喷墨打印工艺膜面的均一性差、不能全面实现印刷工艺、OLED的材料选择受限、难以实现高PPI(pixels per inch)、量产稳定性等问题, 这些

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都是喷墨打印工艺未来发展面临的巨大挑战。

作为一种薄膜制备工艺,多喷嘴喷墨打印不仅打破了单喷嘴打印规模化生产的局限,而且具有性能更好、显示质量更高、成本更低的优势<sup>[16-18]</sup>。多喷嘴喷墨打印尽管有明显的优点,但仍有许多问题阻碍其进一步应用,其中最具挑战性的问题之一就是多个喷嘴同时喷射形成的薄膜不均匀,这种不均匀性是由不同喷嘴喷射的液滴体积不均匀变化引起的<sup>[19-22]</sup>。

本文就如何实现多喷嘴喷射墨滴高度均匀性控制展开了研究,重点讨论喷墨打印工艺参数对多喷嘴同时喷射的墨滴集体行为的影响,提出一种应用于多喷嘴墨滴喷射的体积方差分析方法,寻找喷墨打印参数对墨滴集体行为的影响规律,并实现了多喷嘴喷墨打印稳定且均匀的墨滴喷射。该研究对大尺寸发光显示

面板的量产具有重要意义。

## 2 实验

喷墨打印薄膜阵列采用PiXDRO LP50喷墨打印系统(Meyer Burger,荷兰),如图1所示。图1(a)所示为LP50喷墨打印系统,该系统包括墨滴定位光学观测系统和打印装置,打印前墨滴状态的调节以及基板与墨滴的定位均需要通过光学观测系统进行实时调控。图1(b)为LP50打印喷头及模组示意图,打印喷头配置为单排128个(Spectra SX3),即128个喷嘴排列在一条直线上,喷嘴间距为508 μm,单喷嘴直径为27 μm。利用软件从128个喷嘴中随机激活其中10个进行编号,这些喷嘴的基本属性相同,分布在喷头模组的近中线、远中线以及相邻位置等。

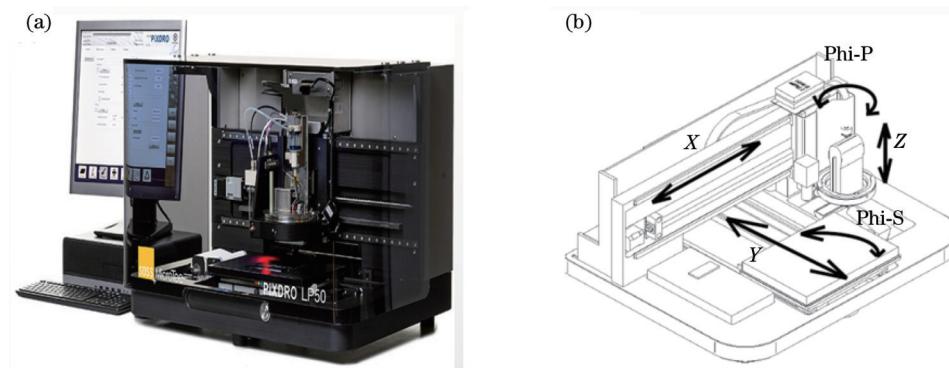


图1 PiXDRO LP50喷墨打印系统。(a) PiXDRO LP50喷墨打印系统整机实物图;(b) PiXDRO LP50打印喷头及模组示意图  
Fig. 1 PiXDRO LP50 inkjet printing system. (a) Photograph of entire PiXDRO LP50 inkjet printing system; (b) diagram of PiXDRO LP50 printhead and module

PEDOT:PSS导电墨水具有良好的溶液态稳定性,适用于喷墨打印,因此利用德国H. C. Starck公司生产的CleviosTM型号PEDOT:PSS溶液(质量比为1:20)和PiXDRO LP50的光学观测系统研究多喷嘴喷墨打印墨滴速度和体积等喷射行为。

喷墨打印的工艺参数主要包括脉冲波形,如图2所示,纵轴为电压幅度,横轴为加载电压幅度的时间。驱动波形高电压( $V_H$ )、低电压( $V_L$ )分别为峰值时间所使用的电压以及触发阶段使用的电压; $T_R$ 、 $T_P$ 和 $T_F$ 分别为驱动波形上升沿时间、峰值时间、下降沿时间。

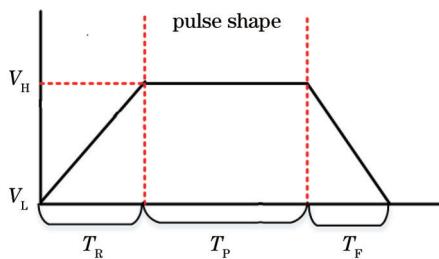


图2 喷墨打印喷头模组驱动电压梯形脉冲波  
Fig. 2 Driving voltage trapezoidal pulse wave of inkjet printing printhead module

## 3 结果与讨论

### 3.1 驱动电压对多喷嘴喷射墨滴速度行为的调控

对不同驱动电压幅值所控制的墨滴行为进行了统计并表征在同一幅图中。如图3所示,以 $V_L$ 为自变量,统计范围为0~50 V,电压间隔为5 V。图3中:蓝色图标代表稳定的墨滴出射,稳定的墨滴出射包括单个、完整、状态稳定的墨滴;红色图标代表不稳定的墨滴出射,不稳定的墨滴喷射包括卫星点、主卫墨滴分离、丝状液滴等;多边形虚线框表示墨滴相对稳定的范围。如图3所示,以 $V_L=5$  V为例说明一列图标的集合的意义。不同的图标对应的是不同的喷嘴编号,每个图标所在的位置表示一个稳定或者不稳定的墨滴所具备的速度特性。当图标集中时,表示在同一个电压下,不同喷嘴喷射的墨滴速度是相近的;当图标疏远时,表示不同喷嘴喷射的墨滴速度相差较大。整体看来,图标集中时所对应的打印参数更适用于大多数的喷嘴。

从图3(a)可以看出:当 $V_L < 15$  V时,处于不稳定状态的墨滴居多;当 $V_L > 15$  V时,墨滴状态趋于稳定,且随着低电压的增大,墨滴速度逐渐变小。可认为

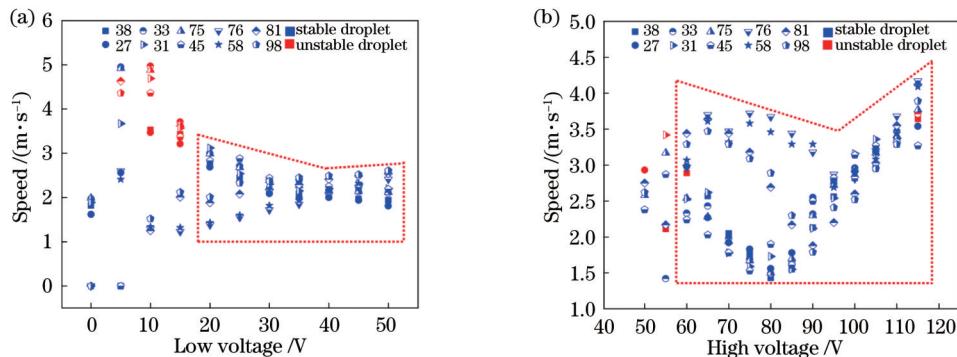


图3 10个随机编号的喷嘴喷射墨滴的速度随着驱动电压的变化。(a) 10个随机编号的喷嘴喷射墨滴的速度随着低压  $V_L$  的变化;  
(b) 10个随机编号的喷嘴喷射墨滴的速度随着高压  $V_H$  的变化

Fig. 3 Variation in velocity of ink droplets ejected by 10 randomly numbered nozzles with driving voltage. (a) Variation in velocity of ink droplets ejected by 10 randomly numbered nozzles with driving low voltage  $V_L$ ; (b) variation in velocity of ink droplets ejected by 10 randomly numbered nozzles with driving high voltage  $V_H$

$V_L=15\text{ V}$  是使得墨滴行为产生较大差异的阈值电压,当驱动电压低于阈值电压时,压电晶体形变无法完成墨水充盈腔室这一状态,进而导致墨滴喷射产生更多不稳定现象。在  $V_L=40\text{ V}$  时,墨滴速度集中程度最高,且在这点之后电压逐渐增加,速度数据的聚集程度反而减弱。因此  $V_L=40\text{ V}$  是使得多喷嘴同时喷射的墨滴体积最为集中的电压值,即被认定为适用于驱动多喷嘴喷射的最佳低压参数。同理,图3(b)为高电压驱动下喷嘴喷射墨滴的速度图,表现出相似的变化趋势,且在  $V_H=100\text{ V}$  时,喷射速度集中程度最高,也是速度变化趋势的转折点,是最适用于多喷嘴喷射的高压值。

喷墨打印驱动电压梯形脉冲波的影响因素除了驱动电压幅值,加载在其上的时间参数与电压幅值也与脉冲波紧密相关,因此研究驱动时间对墨滴集体状态的影响。从图4(a)可以看出:在  $T_R$  为  $3\sim6\text{ }\mu\text{s}$  时,喷射墨滴的行为稳定,尤其在  $T_R$  为  $4\sim6\text{ }\mu\text{s}$  时,墨滴展现了良好的多喷嘴喷射均匀性;当  $T_R>6\text{ }\mu\text{s}$  时,墨滴表现出极度不稳定,其原因主要是回流时间过长导致液滴不受控制,直接从喷嘴中喷射,产生较多卫星点。 $T_R=6\text{ }\mu\text{s}$  时大多数墨滴速度集中在稳定范围内,进而被考虑应用到多喷嘴的喷射参数设置中。如图4(b)所示,当  $T_p$  为  $1\sim4\text{ }\mu\text{s}$  以及  $T_p$  为  $10\sim12\text{ }\mu\text{s}$  时,多喷嘴墨滴喷射较为困难,出现较多的阻塞以及不稳定,可认为:当高电压加载时间过短,墨水所受的表面张力和压电陶瓷在形变过程中产生的挤压力之间的不平衡引发墨滴状态不稳定;当高压时间加载过长,墨滴将在同样时间间隔内多次产生不稳定喷射,形成拉丝状或者主卫墨滴分离的现象。图4(c)所示为喷嘴喷射墨滴的速度随着下降时间  $T_f$  的变化。当  $T_f$  值过小时,墨滴喷射行为也是不稳定的,这归咎于压电陶瓷元件的形变不充分引起墨水回流过程不充分,剩余墨水可能连续向下滴落,从而产生墨滴主卫分离现象。相反地,当  $T_f$  值

过大时,墨滴极少喷射出来。因此在  $T_f$  为  $5\sim6\text{ }\mu\text{s}$  时,可以获得较为稳定的墨滴喷射。

### 3.2 驱动电压对多喷嘴喷射墨滴体积均匀性的调控

多喷嘴喷射的墨滴速度和体积均匀性是评价多喷嘴喷墨打印器件的重要指标。因此,作为墨滴行为描述指标之一的墨滴体积同样被统计,结果如图5所示。可以看出,随着  $V_H$  的增大,墨滴的体积不断增大。墨滴的体积在  $13\sim21\text{ pL}$  范围内可调,可根据不同像素面积需求设定高压参数值,从而获得对应的体积。当  $V_H=100\text{ V}$  时,10个编号的喷嘴所产生的墨滴体积集中在  $19.5\text{ pL}$  左右,即此参数适用于多喷嘴喷射,使得多个喷嘴喷射的墨滴的体积差异小,均匀性高。

图6所示为TP对喷射墨滴体积的影响,其变化规律与驱动高电压幅值变化趋势相似,但  $T_p$  的影响较为明显,墨滴体积在不同  $T_p$  条件下无明显的线性规律,整体变化趋势是随着  $T_p$  增大,墨滴体积增大。当  $T_p>9\text{ }\mu\text{s}$  时,大部分墨滴无法喷射,因此图6中未显示出这部分墨滴的体积。在  $T_p=9\text{ }\mu\text{s}$  时,多喷嘴喷射墨滴表现出体积的集中性,即在此参数值下,墨滴体积的均匀性较高。实际上,在打印参数变化的过程中,不论是多喷嘴喷射墨滴的速度还是体积,都表现出相似的变化趋势:在墨滴速度值集中的同时,墨滴体积分布也相对集中,即不同喷嘴的喷射墨滴状态类似。

### 3.3 多喷嘴喷射墨滴体积均匀性的方差分析

基于上述多喷嘴墨滴速度和体积的统计,可以使得多个喷嘴同时良好喷射的参数。为了进一步研究这种现象,探究其中的规律,对大量墨滴体积数据进行了数值化处理,并且将数学方差引入其中,以衡量打印参数变化对多喷嘴喷射墨滴体积均匀性的影响。数学方差可表征一组喷墨打印数据的稳定性,方差越小则喷墨打印数据越稳定,基于这种性质进行墨滴喷墨打印参数的优选。方差计算公式为

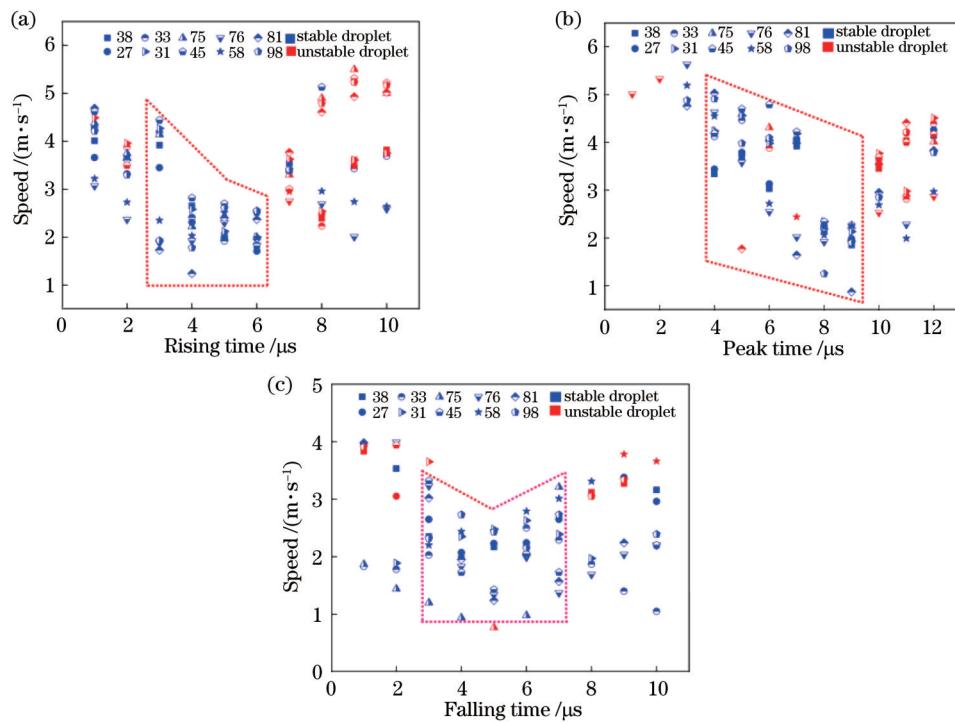


图4 10个随机编号的喷嘴喷射墨滴的速度随着驱动电压时间的变化。(a) 10个随机编号的喷嘴喷射墨滴的速度随着上升时间  $T_R$  的变化;(b) 10个随机编号的喷嘴喷射墨滴的速度随着峰值时间  $T_p$  的变化;(c) 10个随机编号的喷嘴喷射墨滴的速度随着下降时间  $T_F$  的变化

Fig. 4 Variation in velocity of ink droplets ejected by 10 randomly numbered nozzles with time of driving voltage. (a) Variation in velocity of ink droplets ejected by 10 randomly numbered nozzles with rising time  $T_R$ ; (b) variation in velocity of ink droplets ejected by 10 randomly numbered nozzles with peak time  $T_p$ ; (c) variation in velocity of ink droplets ejected by 10 randomly numbered nozzles with falling time  $T_F$

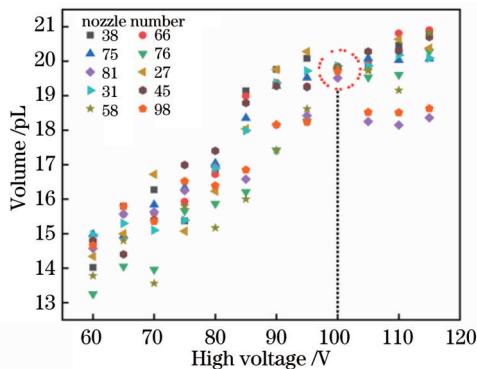


图5 10个随机编号喷嘴随着驱动高压幅值变化形成的墨滴体积分布

Fig. 5 Volume of ink droplets ejected by 10 randomly numbered nozzles varying with driving high voltage

$$s^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1}, \quad (1)$$

式中: $x_i$ 为体积变量; $\bar{x}$ 为该组数据的平均体积数。

基于该计算方法,基于  $V_L$  和  $V_H$  这两个重要的驱动电压参数计算墨滴体积变化方差,结果如图 7 所示。可以看出:在  $V_L=40$  V 时的体积变化方差值最小,为 0.0065;在  $V_H=100$  V 时的体积变化方差值最小,为

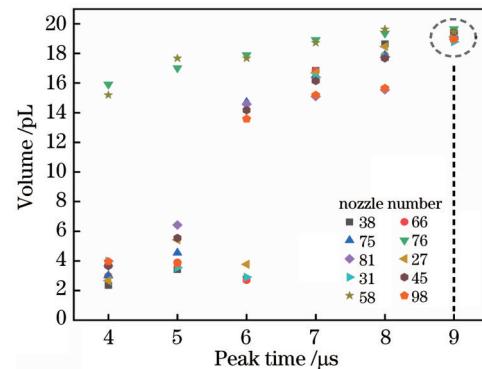


图6 10个随机编号喷嘴随着驱动电压峰值时间变化形成的墨滴体积分布

Fig. 6 Volume of ink droplets ejected by 10 randomly numbered nozzles varying with peak time of driving voltage

0.0062。最小体积变化方差值对应的驱动电压值即为优选电压值。在此电压值下,多喷嘴系统中各喷嘴喷射墨滴体积之间的均匀性高。该结果与速度图中的速度变化转折点为同一个值,说明驱动电压对多喷嘴喷射墨滴行为的影响具有一致性。

与驱动电压幅值分析方法类似,进一步统计喷射墨滴体积变化方差值随驱动时间的变化,结果如图 8 所示,插图为墨滴体积变化方差曲线对应的实际打印

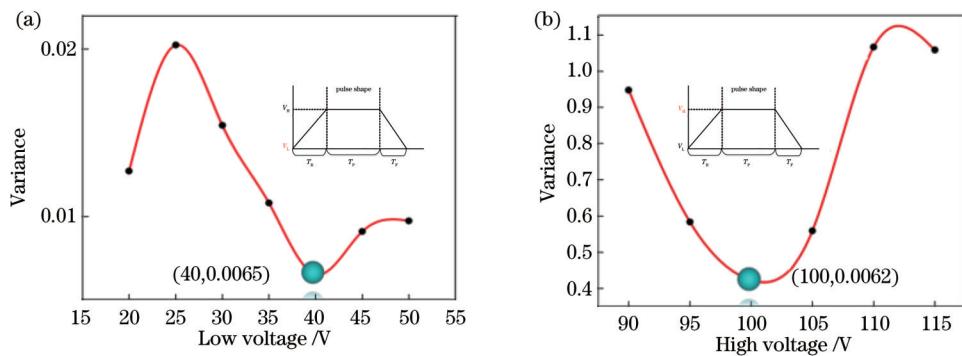


图7 喷嘴喷射墨滴体积方差随驱动电压的变化曲线。(a)多喷嘴喷射墨滴体积方差随驱动低压的变化曲线;(b)多喷嘴喷射墨滴体积方差随驱动高压的变化曲线

Fig. 7 Variation of droplet volume variance with driving voltage for multi-nozzle inkjet printing. (a) Variation of droplet volume variance with driving low voltage for multi-nozzle inkjet printing; (b) variation of droplet volume variance with driving high voltage for multi-nozzle inkjet printing

波形。图8(a)~(c)分别为驱动电压脉冲波形时间 $T_R$ 、 $T_p$ 及 $T_F$ 对喷射墨滴体积变化方差的影响曲线,其中大圆点标注为该方差曲线中的最小值,表示在此打

印参数值下,多喷嘴同时喷射出的墨滴体积均匀性最高。图8(d)为优化喷墨打印参数之后多喷嘴同时喷射的墨滴集合的图像,墨滴体积为19.3~19.5 pL。

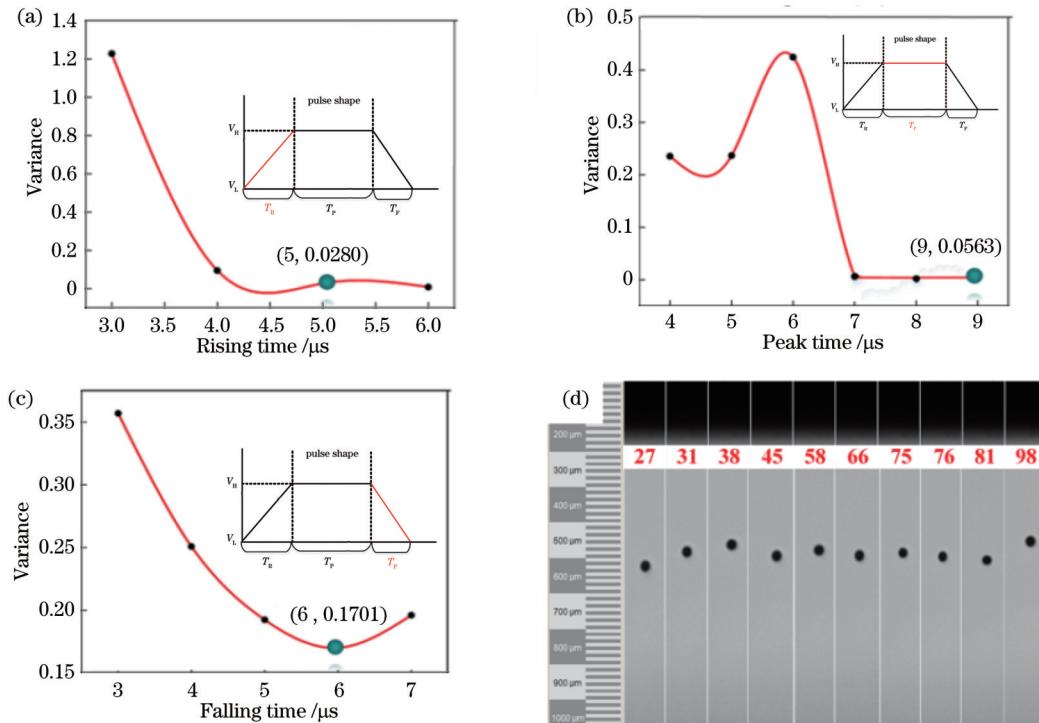


图8 多喷嘴喷射墨滴体积变化方差随驱动电压时间的变化以及优化喷墨打印参数后多个喷嘴同时均匀喷射的墨滴图。(a)多喷嘴喷射墨滴体积变化方差随 $T_R$ 的变化曲线;(b)多喷嘴喷射墨滴体积变化方差随 $T_p$ 的变化曲线;(c)多喷嘴喷射墨滴体积变化方差随 $T_F$ 的变化曲线;(d)优化喷墨打印参数后多个喷嘴同时均匀喷射的墨滴图

Fig. 8 Variation of droplet volume variance with time of driving voltage for multi-nozzle inkjet printing and ink droplets ejected simultaneously and uniformly by multi-nozzles after optimizing inkjet printing parameters. (a) Variation of droplet volume variance with  $T_R$  for multi-nozzle inkjet printing; (b) variation of droplet volume variance with  $T_p$  for multi-nozzle inkjet printing; (c) variation of droplet volume variance with  $T_F$  for multi-nozzle inkjet printing; (d) ink droplets ejected simultaneously and uniformly by multi-nozzles after optimizing inkjet printing parameters

根据前文对多喷嘴同时喷射墨滴体积变化方差的统计,可获得每种喷墨打印参数变化对多喷嘴喷射墨滴体积影响的方差最小值与每组墨滴体积方差的极

差,如表1所示。当极差较大时,多喷嘴同时喷射墨滴体积的变化范围较广,因此使用极差来衡量喷墨打印参数变化对喷射墨滴体积变化的影响。当极差值较小

时,该参数对喷射墨滴集体体积变化行为的影响较小;当极差值较大时,该参数对喷射墨滴集体体积变化的影响较大。**表1**对喷墨打印参数的影响能力进行排序(极差值从大到小),影响能力从大到小为 $T_R$ 、 $T_p$ 、 $V_h$ 、 $T_F$ 、 $V_L$ 。

表1 不同喷墨打印参数对多喷嘴同时喷射墨滴体积变化的最小方差与极差

Table 1 Minimum variance and range deviation of volume variance of droplets ejected simultaneously by multi-nozzles with different inkjet printing parameters

Parameter	Minimum variance	Range deviation
$V_L=40$ V	0.0065	0.0137
$V_h=100$ V	0.0061	0.4132
$T_R=5$ $\mu$ s	0.0280	1.9940
$T_p=9$ $\mu$ s	0.0056	0.4230
$T_F=6$ $\mu$ s	0.1701	0.2169

综上所述,通过对影响墨滴行为的主要喷墨打印参数进行优化,获得这些参数对墨滴集体行为的影响能力排序。在实际多喷嘴喷墨打印中,该参数排序具有重大指导意义,明确了主要的多喷嘴喷墨打印影响因素之后,在调节优化打印参数时重点关注获得多喷嘴同时喷射墨滴体积均匀性高的集体墨滴喷射的规律,这为实现大面积的多喷嘴喷墨打印技术提供了工艺参数优化基础。

## 4 结 论

利用多喷嘴喷墨打印技术喷射均匀墨滴是获得各类光电器件大面积发光层的关键。采用多喷嘴喷墨打印PEDOT:PSS墨水材料,通过优化喷墨打印驱动电压波形参数(主要包括驱动波形高、低电压,脉冲波形上升沿时间、峰值时间、下降沿时间等)调控多喷嘴喷射均匀的墨滴。在此基础上,统计不同喷墨打印参数下喷射墨滴行为以及墨滴体积变化的方差图,分析喷墨打印参数对墨滴集体体积变化行为的影响,得到多喷嘴同时喷射墨滴体积方差最小值约为0.006的结论。该结果揭示了喷墨打印驱动电压参数对多喷嘴喷射墨滴状态的影响能力,为实现大面积均匀性打印参数的调控提供了理论和实验支撑,具有重大的实践指导意义。

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## Control of Multi-Nozzle Inkjet Droplet Uniformity Based on Volume Variance

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### Abstract

**Objective** Inkjet printing technology has attracted extensive attention in the application of optoelectronic devices because of its low ink consumption, high-resolution pattern, and flexible production scale. However, one of the primary goals of inkjet printing is to achieve uniform deposition of functional films, which is dependent on stable ink droplet jetting. It is essential to achieve stable jetting by the adjustment to the physical properties of inks as well as the printing parameters. Much effort has been put into the development of inkjet inks, including the rheological properties of the inks, such as viscosity, viscoelasticity, and surface tension, which allows them to produce excellent spatially homogeneous films. Although the quality of the devices has been assured by better consistency in the films, they all suffer from low productivity and long cycles when printing with a single nozzle. There is an urgent need to develop new manufacturing technology with high economic efficiency for large-area uniform and efficient printing production. As a viable alternative, multi-nozzle inkjet printing not only overcomes the limitations of mass production but also provides better performance, higher prospective advantages, and lower costs. Nevertheless, many issues impede its future applications and must be addressed. One of the most challenging issues is the thickness variation of deposited films injected through multiple nozzles simultaneously. The inhomogeneity is caused by the variation in the volume of the droplets injected by different nozzles. Some researchers suggest that the issue should be addressed by a deep-learning-based strategy, which can identify and moderate the droplet jetting status of a single-jet printing process. However, this approach is unwieldy used due to unavoidable external constraints on practical applications.

In the present study, printing PEDOT:PSS is a key tactic for balancing the interaction among nozzles and overcoming the unevenness of injecting. Our work facilitates the application and development of large-scale inkjet printing technology. For the manufacturing of large-scale luminescent display panels, it is crucial to achieve stable and uniform ink droplet injection for multi-nozzle inkjet printing.

**Methods** In this study, a PiXDRO LP50 multi-nozzle inkjet printing system, consisting of an optical observation system for ink droplet alignment and a printing device, is employed. The optical observation system is required for temporary regulation to align the substrate and ink droplets and correct the ink droplet condition prior to printing. Certain software is used to randomly activate and number 10 of the 128 nozzles, which all have the same basic properties, a pitch of 508  $\mu\text{m}$ , and a diameter of 27  $\mu\text{m}$ . To achieve stable injection and uniform droplets for multi-nozzle inkjet printing, the PEDOT:PSS ink is used for the analysis of the multi-nozzle inkjet printing parameters, including driving high voltage  $V_H$ , low voltage  $V_L$ , rising edge to driving high voltage time  $T_R$ , driving high voltage time  $T_P$ , and falling edge to driving low voltage time  $T_F$ . In addition, a method for calculating the variance is developed to investigate the behavior of droplet volume variances to reveal the influence of printing parameters on droplet uniformity in the multi-nozzle inkjet printing process. Specifically, the states of droplets injected with various printing parameters are obtained and evaluated. The optimal printing parameters are then determined by the droplet volume as a function of the printing parameters, and the relative relevance of various printing parameters is calculated by the range operation.

**Results and Discussions** The multi-ink droplets with excellent volume uniformity are obtained by the adjustment to the

driving-voltage waveform parameters for inkjet printing, including driving high voltage  $V_H$ , low voltage  $V_L$ , rising edge to driving high voltage time  $T_R$ , driving high voltage time  $T_P$ , and falling edge to driving low voltage time  $T_F$ . The ink droplet volume is precisely distributed in the range of 19.3–19.5 pL (Fig. 8). The variations of the volume variance of droplets injected simultaneously by multiple nozzles are evaluated, and the minimum variance of the impact of each change in an inkjet printing parameter on the volume of droplets is about 0.006. The range deviation of inkjet printing factors is determined by the minimum variance, which shows the volume uniformity of droplets injected simultaneously by multiple nozzles with different inkjet printing parameters. A small range deviation indicates that the factor has less ability to impact the collective volume variance of the injected droplets. A large range deviation means parameter changes have a greater impact on the collective volume variance of droplets. According to the range deviation of the volume variance of each group of droplets, the ability of inkjet printing parameters to affect the volume change of droplets is ranked as follows:  $T_R$ ,  $T_P$ ,  $V_H$ ,  $T_F$ , and  $V_L$  (Table 1).

**Conclusions** The utilization of multi-nozzle inkjet printing to inject uniform droplets is the key to obtaining large-area luminescent layers for various types of optoelectronic devices. In this study, PEDOT:PSS ink is used for multi-nozzle inkjet printing, and the driving voltage waveform parameters for inkjet printing, including high voltage  $V_H$ , low voltage  $V_L$ , rising edge time  $T_R$ , peak time  $T_P$ , falling edge time  $T_F$ , are analyzed in detail. Moreover, the analysis of the volume variance of inkjet droplets is proposed to obtain stable and uniform inkjet droplets sprayed from multiple nozzles through the adjustment to these parameters. The minimal volume variance of many nozzles operating simultaneously is found to be approximately 0.006. The effect of driving voltage factors on droplet behavior is ranked according to the variations of the drop volume variance for multi-nozzle inkjet printing. The ability of driving-voltage parameters to affect inkjet droplet behavior for multi-nozzle inkjet printing is ranked as follows:  $T_R$ ,  $T_P$ ,  $V_H$ ,  $T_F$ , and  $V_L$ . The research provides significant guidance for realizing large-area electronic devices by multi-nozzle inkjet printing.

**Key words** measurement; inkjet printing; multi-nozzles; droplet uniformity; volume variance